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VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 20015

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1998 • ELUL 3, 5758 • 3 JAMAD AWWAL 1419

NIS 4.50 (EILAT NIS 3.85)



**9 Arts & Entertainment**

**Dazzling Disney in Tel Aviv**



**11 Features**

**Ambassadors of peace**



**20 Sports**

**Sosa: More and more**

**INDEX**

Arts & Entertainment	9
Business	13
Living	12
Movies, TV, Crossword	19
Opinion	10
Sports	20

## Iran hints it may rein in Hizbullah

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Iran has hinted it might rein in the activities of Hizbullah if the European Union agrees to embark on a "diplomatic partnership" with Iran, according to the London-based Arabic daily *Al-Hayat* yesterday.

Quoting sources accompanying French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine on his visit to Iran over the weekend, *Al-Hayat* said the Iranians were keen to forge a "diplomatic partnership," which they suggested "could help resolve a number of regional conflicts."

As an example of the "partner's" role, Iranian officials are said to have told Vedrine that while Iran views Hizbullah as a Lebanese nationalist movement, it is prepared to exert a "positive influence" on the organization if France and the EU recognize Tehran as a partner.

Iran is anxious to break out of its international diplomatic isolation and acquire both nuclear technology and foreign investment to resuscitate its ailing oil and gas industry. The US is believed to have applied heavy diplomatic pressure on Russia to cease the transfer of nuclear technologies to Iran.

France and Syria agreed to establish a "strategic partnership" last month when Syrian President Hafez Assad made an official visit to Paris.

In another dramatic development, *Al-Hayat* reported yesterday that Iranian President Mohammad Khatami will visit Paris late this year or early next year, marking the end of a two-decade estrangement between the EU and the Islamic republic.

The paper reported that Vedrine presented Khatami with a written invitation from President Jacques Chirac to make an official visit to France, the first such invitation to an Iranian leader since the Islamic revolution swept the shah from power in 1979. The invitation is seen as the most significant fruit so far of Khatami's campaign to improve ties with the West — as well as with neighboring Gulf Arab states — which he has pursued since he won the presidential election in May of last year.

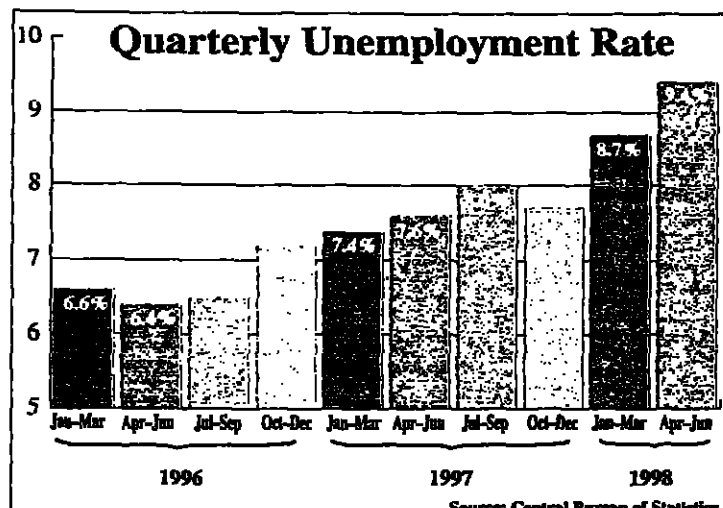
Khatami is expected to make further inroads into Western public opinion when he travels to New York next month to address the UN General Assembly, where he will meet with other world leaders.

The invitation to France and reports about a revision in Iran's attitude to Hizbullah came at the end of a two-day visit to Iran, during which Vedrine held several meetings with Khatami and Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi.

While Khatami's "moderate" approach is encountering stiff resistance from his conservative opponents domestically, *Al-Hayat* reports that Vedrine's meeting with Khatami was a signal that, despite domestic tensions, Iran speaks to the outside world with a single voice.

At a news conference, Vedrine said his talks in Iran covered all pertinent issues, "including difficult ones, such as human rights."

He said Iranian officials had assured him that they reject terrorism in all its forms and stressed that their country had been a victim of terrorism.



## Unemployment jumps to 9.4%

By DAVID HARRIS

There were an average of 213,200 people without jobs between April and June this year, bringing the unemployment rate up to 9.4 percent from 8.7% in the first quarter, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Joblessness is now at its highest rate since the third quarter of 1993.

The January-March jobless total was originally published as 8.4%, but yesterday's data gave an updated number. Despite that, senior Treasury economists said

the key lending rate unchanged in September.

Frenkel said there are no short-term solutions to the unemployment problem, such as cutting interest rates. "The only solution is creating stability," he said.

While Asia and Russia cope with economic crises, it is vital that Israel takes a cautious line, he added.

The unemployment statistics were announced at the same time as Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and his senior aides were presenting their detailed proposals for the 1999 state budget to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Following the meeting, the Treasury issued a statement saying it recommended an additional NIS 1 billion be pumped into infrastructure projects and other programs aimed at increasing economic growth.

Referring to the unemployment figures, a second Treasury statement said the need is even more pressing to transfer government expenditures into economic growth-enhancing plans "to create jobs and professional training, while remaining within the budget goals set by the government."

Within the workforce, the number of women with no job but actively seeking work climbed to 98,800, or 10%, in comparison to 9.1% between January and March, while joblessness rose to 9% among men, up from 8.4%.

**Treasury retracts demand for defense cuts, Page 13**

**Interest rates unchanged, Page 13**

they have no plans to revise their predictions for unemployment through this year and into 1999.

The Finance Ministry said joblessness will average 9%-9.5% both this year and next.

There were last-minute suggestions that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel would take action on the monetary front yesterday, having heard the unemployment statistics.

However, he decided to leave

## PM: We will continue to build in Hebron

By AMY KLEIN and ARNHE O'SULLIVAN

Israel will not abandon Hebron but will continue to build there, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said yesterday, addressing a national conference of rabbis in Jerusalem.

President Ezer Weizman, Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, Labor MK Moshe Shaleh, and the chief rabbis also addressed the conference, which is held annually in preparation for the High Holy Days.

Netanyahu linked together the role of the rabbinate with the current sit-

The sources would not say why, but it was presumed in Jerusalem that Netanyahu wanted to avoid verbal assault by extremist Hebron settlers, who incited against Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and President Ezer Weizman on Sunday.

Netanyahu was responding to Meretz MK Haim Oron's call to dismantle Tel Rumeida at a special Knesset session earlier in the day.

Despite the fact that the Knesset was in recess, over 60 MKs from both sides of the political spectrum requested a special meeting on the peace process, Lebanon, terrorism, and the security situation.

Four MKs raised issues to be discussed when the Knesset reconvenes, but the main topic yesterday was Hebron.

There can't be peace in Hebron, Oron said, until we "evacuate the settlers from Tel Rumeida and take tractors to raze the seven caravans there."

Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (Labor) also said he regretted not evacuating the settlement after the massacre in the Machpela Cave. He called on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to condemn the murder of Salomo Ra'an and said the Knesset should take action against right-wing extremist Baruch Marzel for his words against Weizman two days ago.

"Whoever holds Tel Rumeida holds Hebron," said Rehavam Ze'evi (Molodet), calling for a return to the days of total control.

Ruby Rivlin (Likud) called on Netanyahu to reconsider his position on Oslo and said, "Let's be more like the Americans and return to security," he said.

**Marzel resists questioning, Page 2**

uation in Hebron.

"Don't be rabbis only for the religious — be rabbis for the whole nation," Netanyahu said.

"Unfortunately some people say we should run away from Hebron, the 'Arab' city. Rabbis, see how much work there is for you to do," Netanyahu said, telling them they had to teach every youngster the importance of the city. "We will do what is necessary to build and to protect Hebron."

Sources close to the prime minister said Netanyahu is doing everything he could to appease the angry settlers following the murder and to help them bypass the archeological laws obstructing construction in Tel Rumeida.

However, Netanyahu is not planning to visit Hebron, the sources said, as such a visit could be problematic.

See **HEBRON**, Page 2

## Arafat: Israeli pullout offer is a beginning

Netanyahu reportedly agrees to 13% withdrawal

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and news agencies

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat sounded an optimistic note in Oslo yesterday, declaring that Israeli withdrawal proposals could be "a beginning" toward resuscitating the peace talks.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, told the cabinet for the first time on Sunday that he is prepared for a 13 percent withdrawal from the West Bank, as the US proposed, sources close to the prime minister said.

Israeli and Palestinian officials confirmed yesterday that a new, direct channel had been opened between Netanyahu aide, Attorney Yitzhak Molcho, and Ahmed Qurei (Abu Ala), the speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

Israel Radio also reported that representatives of the CIA and Palestinians security officials have begun drawing up a new security memorandum on fighting terrorism.

Arafat told reporters in Oslo that he could accept the recent Israeli proposal to include existing nature reserves as part of the 13% withdrawal.

"I can accept that," he said, calling the proposal "a beginning."

However, his aides said Arafat will not accept an Israeli proposal to set aside 3% of the land for a new nature reserve that would prevent Palestinians from settling there.

Arafat also said he was willing to meet Netanyahu, as long as there was a good chance of substantive talks.

Netanyahu denied reports that he had given up his demand that the Palestinian National Council convene to amend the clauses in the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

Netanyahu's spokesman Aviv Bushinsky said the prime minister had discussed this issue with US President Bill Clinton last Friday



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat greets former prime minister Shimon Peres in Oslo yesterday, at a ceremony marking the fifth anniversary of the Oslo Accords (AP)

and emphasized that the PNC's amending the covenant was a precondition for an agreement.

Jerusalem sources said that at Sunday's cabinet meeting,

Netanyahu spoke of a readiness to withdraw from 10% of the West Bank and another 3%, where the IDF would retain security control. The sources said Netanyahu did

not mention a document regarding the 13% which was reportedly given to Arafat.

See **WITHDRAWAL**, Page 2

## Gingrich: Not enough to impeach Clinton

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) — Republicans reacted cautiously yesterday to House Speaker Newt Gingrich's comments that he believed "a pattern of felonies" instead of a single act would be needed to launch an impeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton.

"We leave those sort of comments to the judgment of the speaker," said a spokesman for Representative Tom DeLay of Texas, third-ranking House Republican who last week called

on Clinton to resign from office. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde of Illinois, whose panel would consider whether to conduct an impeachment inquiry against Clinton, declined to comment, as did House Republican Leader Dick Armey of Texas.

In an interview in yesterday's edition of the *Washington Post*, Gingrich said he believed only "a pattern of felonies" and not "a single human mistake" would launch an impeachment inquiry.

## Ben-Eliahu: IAF needs to enter space

By ARNHE O'SULLIVAN

The air force needs to extend its reach into space, OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliahu said in an interview with *Air Force Magazine* published today.

"In the future, we will need to correct the historical definition which says that the air force operates in the air and decide that the air force also operates in space," he said.

Ben-Eliahu said an IAF presence in space would contribute in a variety of areas of combat and not necessarily against distant enemies.

"You can't link this activity only with actions against far-off

enemy nations. Space will also help us in actions in the immediate fronts," Ben-Eliahu said.

"The entry of the IAF into space is perceived as entering a separate area from that in which we have operated until now. But a closer look shows the difference is only an extension of the activity we are carrying out in the atmosphere [now]."

Israel currently has one satellite, the Ofek-3, and Ben-Eliahu said he is interested in adding another one.

The launch of the Ofek-4, which according to foreign reports is a spy satellite, failed recently, and the Ofek-3 is currently operating beyond its intended life span.



MKs sit in the auditorium during yesterday's special Knesset debate. The plenum is undergoing renovations. (Flash 90)



# Marzel resists police questioning

Former Kach activist ordered to appear Thursday

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Baruch Marzel, whose verbal attack on President Ezer Weizman in Hebron on Sunday sparked a police investigation, failed to show up at the city's police station for questioning yesterday.

Judea and Samaria Police spokesman Opher Sivan said police had left three summonses ordering Marzel to come for questioning. Yesterday morning, Sivan said, Marzel told police he was unwell and asked to postpone the questioning until Thursday, after the shiva period for Rabbi Shlomo Ra'an is over.

Sivan said police sought a court order summoning Marzel for questioning, but the judge acceded to Marzel's request for a delay, ordering him to show up at the station on Thursday.

"I am looking forward to being questioned by the police," Marzel said yesterday. "If there is a trial I will have the opportunity to tell the entire public who President Ezer Weizman is."

A tense calm prevailed in Hebron as the curfew and closure on Hebron continued. The streets were mostly empty, with groups of IDF soldiers guarding intersections and manning roadblocks.

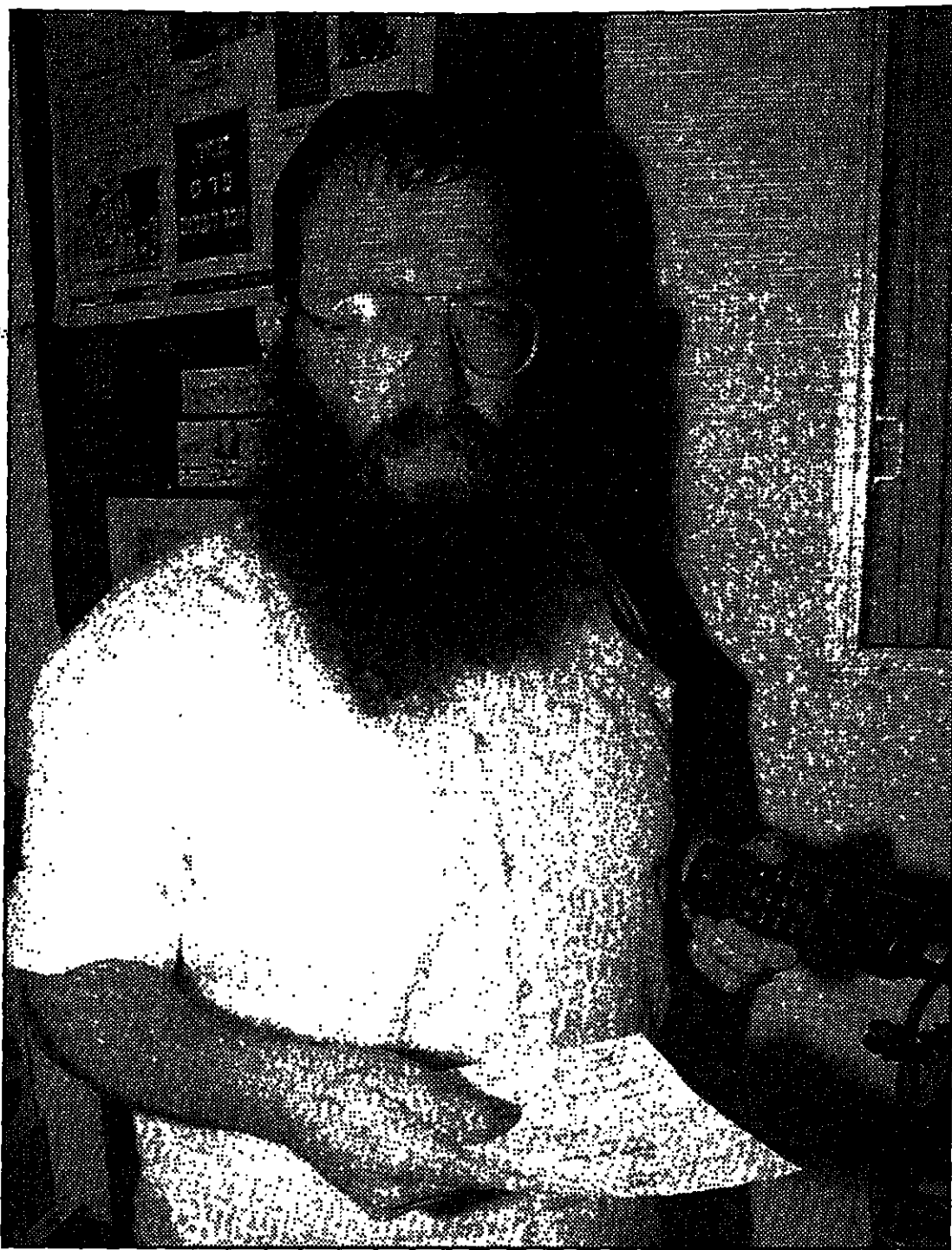
In H2, which is under Israeli control, the Palestinian stores were shut and the streets quiet except for a stream of visitors to the Machpela Cave and to Tel Rumeida, where they paid their respects to Ra'an's widow, Chaya.

Women in Green and a newly established women's group from Kiryat Arba marched to the Machpela Cave where they read psalms before continuing to the Ra'an caravan for a condolence call.

A small path winds past the caravans perched on the hillside, flowers and grass planted on one side and the entrances to the caravans on the other. The Ra'an's home is the fourth caravan along, next door to the Marzels.

Outside, under a tree several young women tended to a group of small children.

In the Ra'an home, at the end of a long hallway, a group of woman sat, comforting Chaya's



Baruch Marzel holds a police summons yesterday.

(Flash 90)

elderly mother.

The door of one room is charred, the only visible evidence of the fire set by the terrorist who stabbed Shlomo on Thursday night.

Inside the room, Shlomo's sons, Michael and Abraham, were comforted by male visitors. Their sister, Tzippi, entered the house and sat at the end of the hallway. Her eyes red, her lips quivering, she spoke to a woman seated nearby, wiping the tears from her eyes as she talked.

Chaya walked by heading for the end room, holding a photo album in her hand. Everyone expressed amazement at her strength.

Outside one of her neighbors recalled last Thursday's events and how Chaya, covered in blood, collapsed outside on the pathway.

"No one could have saved Shlomo, the terrorist stabbed him in the heart," she said, adding that the real miracle was that the house was hardly damaged by the fire.

Minutes away, a Palestinian woman in her twenties, accompanied by an older woman from the section under Palestinian control, was barred from entering the H2 area by IDF soldiers.

According to reports, she attempted to snatch a gun from one of the soldiers but she was caught and taken to the Hebron police station for questioning.

Sivan said the woman told him the soldiers had pushed her and that she had no intention of snatching the soldier's weapon.

As MKs discussed building permanent homes in Tel Rumeida, Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Amon rejected claims by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai that if the homes had been reinforced and defense measures in place, Ra'an's murder might not have occurred.

"Neither buildings or walls will protect people from terrorists. The murderer climbed up a wall and no one was there to prevent him. It is up to the army and police to safeguard the citizens of Israel," Amon said.

He charged that only months ago, the IDF commander in Hebron, Col. Yigal Sharon, ordered a halt to IDF patrols in the neighborhood and dismantled a watchtower there.

The community's long-range plans for Tel Rumeida consists of 70 apartments, said Amon. The community owns 14 dunams of land on the hilltop, he said, mainly in the northern section.

No construction, however, would be undertaken that might damage the hill's archeological site, he said.

Aharon Domb, director of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza offered a solution.

"You can dig a certain depth into the ground, without harming the archeological site and set concrete platters over it and on top of that build the houses. That way in the future those wishing to dig and discover what is hidden there will be able to do so easily."

The previous night, an IDF patrol spotted two Palestinians attempting to enter the Samaritan settlement of Yitzhar.

As the soldiers yelled out to them to stop, the Palestinians fled to the nearby village.

IDF soldiers searched the village and continued to do so yesterday morning, to no avail. Yitzhar residents questioned the soldiers' behavior.

"Why didn't they fire shots at them and injure them?" one asked.

David Wilder, a Hebron resident and another spokesman for the Jewish community, said the same thing happens in Hebron.

"Look, according to the Hebron Agreement, the IDF is allowed to carry out hot pursuit if necessary. But they have never done it."

"Shortly after the attack last Thursday, they should have cordoned off a 10-kilometer radius and caught the terrorists. They didn't, and there is nothing we can do. If the IDF doesn't act as a deterrent, then who will?"

He also objected to the harsh reception he received by some of the residents of Hebron following Thursday's attack.

There was a Kach group and they shouted 'murderer' at me. There were some who actually said: 'Bring your baby so we can tell him that his father is a murderer,' Mordechai said. "The way some of the people spoke and behaved transgressed all limits and the damage they caused is very grave."

He also said that special US mediator Dennis Ross was negotiating with the Palestinians while attending the commemoration of the Oslo Accords in Norway. "It is reasonable that if Dennis Ross finds a bridging formula then he will come here," Mordechai said. "As far as my understanding, knowledge and involvement in the process itself, we are very close."

Michal Yudelman contributed to this report.

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## Arafat will rally support for state at UN

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will use the UN General Assembly in September to win international support for plans to declare a Palestinian state in May 1999, Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said yesterday.

The Palestinian Authority has already begun such contacts, seeking pledges of recognition once a state is declared in parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip on May 4, 1999, he said.

"The most important contacts will be in September in the meeting of the General Assembly," Shaath said.

During his trip to the US, Arafat will also meet with US President Bill Clinton, he said.

Under the Oslo Accords, the period of Palestinian autonomy ends May 4, 1999. The accords stipulated that by then, Israel and the Palestinians should have negotiated a permanent peace accord

which would, among other things, determine the final status of the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem.

However, the negotiations have not even begun, and it is unlikely they will in the near future.

Arafat said he would declare statehood by the deadline, regardless of whether a peace agreement has been reached. Israel says this would constitute a violation of the accords and hinted that in retaliation for a unilateral declaration of statehood, it might annex parts of the West Bank.

The US has tried to discourage Arafat from going ahead with a unilateral declaration of statehood.

However, the Palestinians are determined to go ahead, Shaath said. "Even if we have control over one percent of the land, we will declare the state. What we want is international recognition that our sovereignty is on all land occupied in 1967." (AP)

## Youth to attend Naharayim peace rally despite ban

By DAVID RUDGE

A peace rally is to be held at Naharayim today to mark the fifth anniversary of the Oslo Accords, despite a ban by the Education Ministry on youngsters attending the event.

More than 1,500 teenagers from the United Kibbutz Movement's youth wing and representatives of youth movements from Jordan, Gaza and south Lebanon would be attending the rally, said Yoel Marshak, of the UKM, which is organizing the event.

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled told Israel Radio yesterday that the ministry, which funds youth groups, had banned youngsters from visiting the site ever since the massacre there in March last year of seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls by a Jordanian soldier.

Peled said he respected peace events and meetings, but the Education Ministry was responsible for the safety and well-being of youngsters.

The ministry, he said, had banned youngsters from taking part in the

planned rally unless there was proper and organized security arrangements.

Marshak said in response that the IDF and the Jordanian army would be guarding those attending the rally at the Jordanian-controlled enclave, which was once termed "Peace Island" following the signing of the peace accord between Jordan and Israel.

"Peace is our best security belt and it is also our future, and it is the desire of our youth," said Marshak, head of the UKM's youth and settlement section.

He noted that the IDF and the Jordanian army had held a joint exercise six months ago on how to ensure security at the Naharayim site and on coordinating activities in case of emergencies.

A statement issued by the UKM said the rally would go ahead as planned, and the guests of honor would be Prince Raed of Jordan and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani.

The statement said the aim of the rally was also to give support to the deadlocked peace process and help restore Naharayim as a tourist site.

## Three die in road accidents

Two people were killed in road accidents yesterday; a third died of injuries suffered last week, and a fourth was seriously injured. Three people were lightly hurt.

A 10-year-old boy riding his bike was killed near the gas station in Majdal el-Kurum when he rode across the Acre-Karmiel road and was hit by a car. The driver was detained for questioning.

Ahmed Jabara, 22, of Tamra, was killed in the morning when he passed illegally and hit an oncoming commercial vehicle head-on while driving near Kibbutz Yasur in the Galilee. Three people in the commercial vehicle were lightly injured.

Ilan Zvi, 60, of Ramat Gan, died yesterday morning in Sheba Hospital from injuries suffered

three days earlier, when he, while riding his bicycle, hit the door of a car its driver opened after parking. A woman, 82, was seriously injured last night when she was hit by a car as she crossed at the corner of Yehezkel and Nordau streets in Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile, Ofer Weizman, 20, of Holon, whose jeep ran up on the sidewalk and plowed into a Tel Aviv pub window Saturday night, killing a woman, was still hospitalized yesterday at Sheba Hospital, but is expected to be released soon.

It was decided yesterday not to bring him before a judge, but instead to release him on bail.

Alon Bar, of Yotiv, who had run into Weizman's jeep with his car, forcing it off the road, was remanded Sunday for 24 hours.

(Itim)

## WITHDRAWAL

Continued from Page 1

Arafat, attending the commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Oslo Accords, accused Netanyahu of policies over the past two years that had fostered "despair, hate, and violence."

He told a news conference at the Nobel Institute that under Netanyahu, Israel is "continuing its policy of non-compliance" with the accords.

Other speakers included former prime minister Shimon Peres, who shared the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize with Arafat and then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. US mediator Dennis Ross, and Norwegian mediators. Netanyahu did not attend.

Ross said some progress had been made to revive the talks after 18 months of deadlock.

"We won't have a breakthrough until we have an agreement. There are differences, even though they are narrower than they were some weeks ago. We hope we can find a way to overcome those differences," he said.

Likud whip Meir Sheerit, Netanyahu's representative at the ceremony, deflected Arafat's criticisms.

"I don't believe that pointing fingers of blame will help the peace process... the government is committed to this peace process. Both sides have to make an effort," he said.

Peres urged the two sides to regain each other's trust. He said an Israeli whose son had been killed by Palestinians was recently asked if he still believed in the peace process.

"He replied yes, saying: 'I lost my son. I didn't lose my head,'" Peres said.

"It takes great courage to be back

in Oslo," Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek said. "The peace process is at its lowest. Its enemies even say it is dead. But it is a viable road toward a comprehensive peace."

A number of ministers criticized Netanyahu's agreeing to a 13% withdrawal without an orderly discussion in the cabinet or even the security cabinet, despite the ongoing terrorist attacks and Arafat's refusal to denounce last Thursday's murder in Hebron.

Netanyahu said at Sunday's cabinet meeting that the 13% withdrawal would be discussed in the cabinet or the security cabinet at a later stage. But Communications Minister Limor Livnat demanded that the issue be submitted to the cabinet's approval before a decision is made.

Cabinet secretary Dan Naveh yesterday demanded Arafat fire Transport Minister Ali Kowasmech unless he retracts his allegation that Israel staged the murder in Hebron.

Naveh said it is not possible that during negotiations on stopping Palestinian incitement, one of the PA leaders should engage in wild incitement.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon demanded that the free passage permits of West Bank Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub and other PA officials who committed to violence after the Hebron murder be withdrawn.

The Land of Israel Front met yesterday and again threatened to topple the government if it cedes another 13% of Judea and Samaria.

"We are holding this meeting to signal to the prime minister, in case he has a short memory, that his coalition will not allow him to do something against the wishes of the people who elected him," said the group's leader, MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher).

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

**AL POTASHNICK** ז"ל

Wife: Norma  
Children: Siona and Amnon Avissar and family  
Ya'el and Oren Mitri and family  
Atara and Ron Gottfreund and family

The funeral will take place on Tuesday, August 25, 1998 at 1:00 p.m.

Rehov Givat Shaul, opposite Herzog Hospital, at Har Hamenuhot.

Our beloved

**AHUVA GAL**

Passed away in Philadelphia  
After a long illness

The funeral will take place in Kibbutz Yagur  
On Thursday, August 27, 1998, at 4 p.m.

The procession will start from the Yad Lameginim Theater.

The Family

בן דוד יצחק

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear father and zaydie

**CHARLES LEVINE** ז"ל

Richard and Brondine Levine  
Nechama, Tziona, Levi, Eli and Tali

In deep sorrow, I announce the passing of my beloved husband

**Dr. MAX FLESCH**

The funeral will take place on Wednesday,  
August 26, 1998, at 1:30 p.m.  
at the new Yarkon Cemetery in Tel Aviv.

Shiva at 24 Dubnov St., Tel Aviv

Therese Flesch  
and the family in Israel and abroad

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# Bin Laden: The war has begun

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — The International Islamic Front for Holy War Against Jews and Crusaders (IIF) — an alliance of extremist organizations created by Afghanistan-based Osama bin Laden — has renewed its pledge to mount "pitiless and violent" attacks against Israeli and US targets.

In faxes sent by the IIF in Peshawar to its London support group al-Muhajiroun, the organization called on Muslims to "take the necessary steps" and declared, "The war has begun."

The faxes said the IIF had already mobilized an unspecified number of its estimated 5,000 agents to act against Israel and the

US and listed four objectives:

- Bring down their airliners.
- Prevent the safe passage of their ships.
- Occupy their embassies.
- Force the closure of their companies and banks.

The organization did not specify how it would achieve these objectives, but it said the attacks would be "pitiless and violent."

In another development, the editor of the London-based daily *Al-Quds al-Arabi* reported that he had received a call from a senior aide to bin Laden who confirmed US President Bill Clinton's contention that a meeting of Islamic extremist leaders was scheduled to have been held last Thursday, the day of the US missile strike.

Abu Haq told editor Abdelbari Atwan, who is in regular contact with bin Laden, that the meeting was to have been held at the Zawar Kili al-Badr training camp, near Khost. It was to have involved bin Laden and several other Islamic extremist leaders, including Ayman Dhowari, whose Islamic Jihad organization in Egypt assassinated former president Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Atwan said he received the call to say that the meeting had been canceled. "Bin Laden knew a raid was being planned by the Americans," said Atwan. "He called it off."

While security forces are attempting to blunt the widely anticipated Islamic onslaught,

intelligence agencies are also seeking to unravel the vast money-laundering operation that bin Laden is believed to have created.

According to the *London Times* yesterday, he is known to have accountants, lawyers, and stock market experts who launder huge sums through the markets in London, Frankfurt, and New York in apparently legitimate deals so that his agents can be paid with "clean" money.

Intelligence experts conceded that without far tougher legislation, it is virtually impossible to prevent terrorist masterminds from transferring their money around the markets with impunity.

"To run such a corporation of terror, he has needed to develop a

sound business sense," says the *Times*, noting that "intelligence services believe he is using the same money-laundering methods as the heads of organized crime syndicates."

This would include setting up false offshore insurance companies that are paid huge premiums by fake shipping companies for insuring ships that do not exist. The insurance companies then use the money to buy property and invest in stocks.

"By the time the money has gone through all the various layers," said one expert, "it is very difficult for the authorities to trace it back to prove that it was originally coming from terrorist funds."



A traveler repacks his bag after it was opened during a security check at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday.

(Ron Ostrowsky/Israel Sun)

## Security measures stepped up at airports

By NINA GILBERT and AP

Security measures have been stepped up at Ben-Gurion Airport as a result of the US attacks on terror targets in Afghanistan and Sudan and subsequent threats issued by terror groups, the Airports Authority said yesterday.

The authority said heightened security measures have also been implemented in "airports around the world where airlines under terrorist threat are operating."

At the same time, the authority denied that yesterday's delays were due to boosted security, saying that during the peak travel season these delays are normal.

"The level of preparedness changes from time to time as a result of intelligence information, and now as a result of declarations by various terrorist elements around the world," the authority said.

Pini Shis, an authority spokesman, said security had also been tightened at the Sde Dov and Eilat airports.

The Israel Police said "regular security measures" are being taken at bus stations.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said Israel would use all measures it deemed necessary to fight terrorism.

Asked whether this included pre-emptive strikes, Bar-Ilan said: "I don't want to be specific about anything but obviously we are not ruling out anything."

*Ha'aretz*, meanwhile, reported yesterday that metal detectors at Ben-Gurion do not pick up certain items that contain metal, including kitchen knives and big key chains.

*Ha'aretz* tested the five metal detectors in the departure hall twice and found that the equipment did not pick up on metal items weighing about 350 grams.

This said security officials are aware that metal detectors cannot alert security to every metal object.

"Metal detectors are not the final answer in preventing terror attacks," Shis said. "The machines are only one link in an entire chain of security measures."

This would not specify which other means are used to check if a person is carrying weapons.

## Small demo also held in Gaza

In a protest outside the US Embassy yesterday, leaders of the Islamic Movement in Israel condemned the American air strikes against suspected terrorist strongholds in Sudan and Afghanistan as an attack on all Muslims.

The protest drew about 30 people, including Mohammed Darnaseh, the deputy leader of the Islamic movement, which is becoming increasingly influential among Israel's 1 million Arab citizens.

About 50 police officers guarded the embassy but did not try to push back the demonstrators, who held banners reading "We won't forgive and we won't forget" and "Clinton kills innocent people in cold blood."

"We are here to protest the American attack. We see it as an attack against all Muslims," Darnaseh said.

In a separate protest, about 70 members of the radical Islamic Jihad group chanted "Death to America" and burned four US and two Israeli flags in Gaza City.

Nafiz Azzam, the spiritual leader of Islamic Jihad in the Palestinian areas, said the US could expect retribution for the strikes. "It is natural and necessary that there be revenge for the blood of Muslims," Azzam said.

The anti-American rallies in the Palestinian areas have been relatively small in scale — in sharp contrast to earlier this year when thousands of Palestinians took to the streets in support of Iraq in its showdown with the US over weapons inspections.

That confrontation was widely perceived as an Arab issue, while the Palestinians don't feel such close ties to Sudan and Afghanistan, which are Muslim but not considered key players in the Arab world.



Members of the Islamic Movement protest the American air strikes on Sudan and Afghanistan outside the US Embassy yesterday.

(Yael Sonek/Israel Sun)

## Arab League backs Sudan

CAIRO (AP) — The Arab League yesterday denounced last week's US military strikes against Sudan as an aggression against an Arab country and gave strong political backing to the Islamic government in Khartoum.

In a resolution following an emergency meeting of its council, the 22-member league also urged Washington to refrain from any further actions "which may arouse public outrage" in the Arab world.

"The council decides to condemn the American attack against the pharmaceutical factory in Khartoum as an aggression against Sudan and a grave violation of its sovereignty and its territorial integrity," said the resolution.

The council, made up of Arab ambassadors to the league, adopted the resolution unanimously after a two-hour debate.

Sudan's ambassador to the league, Ahmed Abdel-Khalim, is the current rotating chairman, but this is not believed to have affected the vote.

Sudan had asked for the emergency meeting last week to seek Arab support in its confrontation with the US over the attack on a Khartoum factory which Sudan insists makes medicines, but Washington claims produces ingredients for chemical weapons.

US officials tied the factory to Osama bin Laden, the Saudi dissident it blames for the twin bombings on US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania on August 7.

The Thursday attack in Khartoum was accompanied by strikes on bin Laden's bases in Afghanistan.

## Tadiran system used in US Marine exercise

By STEVE RODAN

An Israeli defense firm has contributed a system for a US Marine Corps exercise in urban warfare, which has taken on new significance in the wake of Washington's offensive against Islamic terrorism.

Tadiran Electronic Systems, a Holon-based company, has provided its Manpack Receiving Station to a Marine exercise that is exploring tactics and new systems for use in urban warfare.

It marks a departure for US forces, which until last year stayed away from fighting in populated centers.

But US plans to fight terrorists who hide in Third World countries such as Afghanistan and Sudan have renewed the Pentagon's determination to be able to infiltrate and fight in populated areas.

Tadiran's MRS system allows a junior commander to have real-time intelligence in an urban area. The system collects data and

images from an unmanned air vehicle flying above, which can spot terrorists, snipers or any other enemy hiding on rooftops or in alleyways.

Tadiran executives said they have sold several MRS systems to both the Marines and the Navy Seals. The systems are being used in the current six-month-long Urban Warrior exercise, which begins in New York State and makes its way south to Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Marines are using the system in two applications. One is for the system to be controlled by a soldier with a backpack and C-band antenna. The other is to attach the MRS to a command post, giving the commander the ability to make decisions and send data to other commanders.

The Pentagon is spending tens of millions of dollars to equip ground forces to fight in urban terrain and has funded a \$70 million Urban Terrain Advanced Concept and Technology Demonstration.

## Report calls on Vatican to open WWII archives

LONDON (AP) — The final report on a 41-nation conference that tried to unravel the jigsaw of looted Nazi gold called yesterday for greater openness of historical records — and pointedly noted that the Vatican has not responded to calls to open its World War II archives.

Lord Mackay, the conference chairman, also announced that a fund launched at the December meeting to compensate victims of Nazi persecution has pledges of \$57 million from 11 countries, and promises of additional funds from other nations.

At the London conference, participants agreed to seek moral and financial restitution for the victims of Nazi persecution.

The United States set an end-of-the-century deadline for completing investigations into the atrocities and distributing cash to Holocaust survivors, many nearing the end of their lives.

"I think all present were agreed that the international community must look urgently and imaginatively for ways to bring relief to such people," Mackay wrote in the 834-page final report published

yesterday.

"The strong feeling of our conference was that we must all do our utmost to get there by the end of the present century," he wrote.

Mackay said there had been progress since the conference, including the \$1.25 billion Holocaust settlement by Switzerland's two biggest commercial banks, and noted that a Swiss government fund was helping victims "wherever they may be, principally in former Eastern Europe."

Noting that 16 nations have set up commissions to investigate their countries' roles in the Nazi era, Lord Janner, chairman of The Holocaust Educational Trust, said: "It is in no small part due to the international determination symbolized by the London conference that some measure of justice is starting to be done."

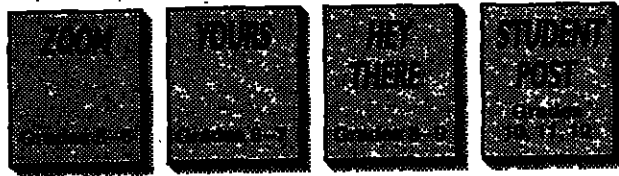
At a news conference launching the report, Mackay said one of the conference's key themes was the need to open government and private archives so information that has been made available to those researching the history of those looted by the Nazis.

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## Mar-Haim guilty of tax evasion

Businessman Amos Mar-Haim, a member of the Jerusalem city council and of the board of directors of many public corporations, was found guilty yesterday in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court of concealing more than NIS 2 million in income from tax authorities.

In the context of a plea bargain that was reached between Mar-Haim, a former deputy mayor, and the State Attorney's Office, Mar-Haim admitted to concealing NIS 382,000 worth of taxes. He was given a sentence of six months in prison, with the opportunity to do public service instead.

According to the plea bargain, Mar-Haim asked that the fine for his tax evasion total NIS 500,000, while the state requested a NIS 1.2 million fine.

Mar-Haim admitted that during the years 1991-95 he did not report various revenues to the authorities. He claimed that this was done unwittingly, and that he thought the companies he served were giving reports to the tax



Amos Mar-Haim (Israel Sun)

authorities.

Mar-Haim argued that since he has been involved in public service his whole life, there is no reason why he should be ordered to do public service now.

His lawyer noted that Mar-Haim had returned to tax authorities all of the money he owed, with interest. Mar-Haim will be formally sentenced on Wednesday. (Trim)

## Four Mothers: Weizman sympathetic to our cause

By DAVID FUDGE

President Ezer Weizman met yesterday at Beit Hanassi with representatives of the Four Mothers movement, which is pressing for the withdrawal of the IDF from south Lebanon.

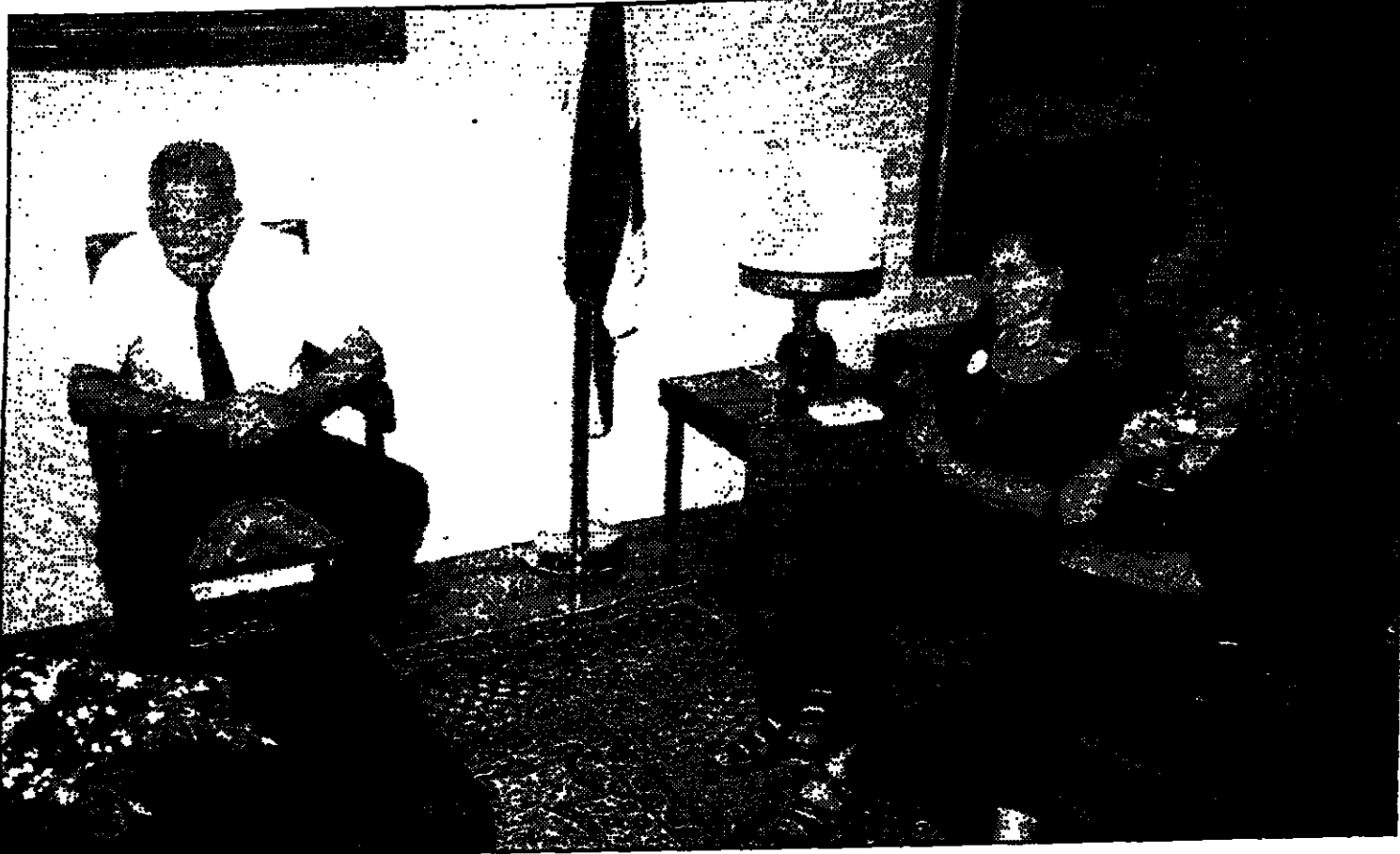
They declined to relay details of the conversation with Weizman but expressed satisfaction that the president had agreed to meet them so quickly after they had submitted their request — immediately after the deaths of an IDF soldier and a civilian in a bomb blast near the Beaufort Castle outpost late last Thursday.

"We submitted our request on Friday and he has already seen us. I think this signifies his attitude towards the Four Mothers and our aim," said Zahara Anteby, who was among the three women and two men who met the president.

"From what we understood, the president intends to meet with the Defense Minister and other ministers because he has his own ideas and suggestions for dealing with the Lebanon problem," said Anteby.

Weizman himself told reporters that the need to pull the army out of Lebanon was well known, but he ruled out the possibility of unilateral withdrawal.

"We can't just pick-up the kit-bags and go home," he said. "There is Syria, Syria and Lebanon are virtually one and the same, and therefore [any withdrawal] has to be done wisely and



President Ezer Weizman meets yesterday at Beit Hanassi with representatives of the Four Mothers movement, including Zahara Anteby (right) and Yona Rochlin. (Brian Heller)

very carefully. "In the meantime, from the military aspect, the best way has to be found to be able to live

there, or more correctly, not die there. It is an issue that the defense minister and the chief of staff are dealing with and, from

time to time, I ask them about it," said Weizman. Members of the Four Mothers movement, meanwhile, are con-

tinuing to stage a sit-in protest in a tent pitched opposite the Jerusalem home of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

## After 50 years - IDF to replace Dakota

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

For the past 50 to 60 years, it was a given among veteran pilots that the only replacement for a C-47 cargo plane, also known as a Dakota, was another Dakota.

But after generations of faithful service, the IAF has decided to replace the legendary World War II-era planes.

The IAF also wants to replace its fleet of Piper Super Cubs. Both the Dakotas and the Piper Cubs have been in the service of the IAF from even before its birth 50 years ago.

According to the recent edition of the *Air Force Magazine*, the decision to take the out of service was based on their "age and limitations."

"The Dakota is an excellent plane, but the time has come to change it," said Col. Doron, commander of the old transport squadron. "The

Dakota no longer meets the safety requirements of today, and its maintenance is expensive since it is hard to get parts for it."

The sight of the old gray geese lined up on the tarmac of their base in central Israel harkens to a bygone era from the heyday of propeller flight.

First flown in 1935, the Douglas company built 10,629 in a decade of production. Dozens found their way here, many of them sold as scrap after the war.

The Dakota was once the workhorse of the transport squadrons. Its place in the country's history books was made when it dropped the 202nd paratrooper battalion on Mitla Pass at the start of the 1956 Sinai Campaign. The pilot of the lead plane was Lt. Yael Rom, one of the few female pilots in the IAF's history.

Palestinian terrorist organizations, including Hamas, appear to be having revised their tactics and are now putting more emphasis on hitting settlers in the territories rather than civilian targets inside the Green Line.

While some experts maintain it is too early to say whether the recent fatal attacks in Hebron and Yitzhar mark a distinct change in strategy, all agree they constitute a significant development.

It would be wrong, however, said Dr. Menachem Klein, senior lecturer at Bar-Ilan University's Department of Political Science, to assume that Hamas had abandoned its old policies.

Klein, an expert on Palestinian affairs, stressed there were no signs that Hamas had rejected its ultimate objective of "liberating all of Palestine" and not just the

areas held by Israel since 1967. Furthermore, he maintained that Hamas might now have an additional motive for carrying out a spectacular attack of one kind or another — in retaliation for the US strikes on Islamic terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan.

"Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin has stated that the organization will retaliate for the US strikes — a statement which highlights Hamas's Pan-Islamic profile, rather than its local agenda," said Klein.

"Personally, I think that this threat should be taken seriously, especially because of the view expressed by many Moslem extremists that Israel assisted the US and that the two are working hand-in-glove against the Islamic world."

### IN CONTEXT

By DAVID FUDGE

On the local front, Klein said it appeared there was a change in tactics, if not strategy, on the part of Hamas and possibly other Palestinian organizations.

"It should be noted that the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anani in Tel Rumeida on Thursday night was the fourth in the territories in the past six months, following the incidents at Yitzhar, as well as at Ma'on in the southern Hebron hills area," said Klein.

"Certainly this issue [of targeting settlers] was discussed for a long time in the Hamas leadership and in a different way at the last meeting of the Organization of Islamic States, which came out against killing innocent civilians."

"Many Palestinians, including Hamas, view settlers as soldiers, because they are occupying

Palestinian territory, and they are therefore considered legitimate targets in a war of liberation."

Klein maintained that despite changes in the past two years, the majority of Palestinians were still opposed to terrorism in general and the killing of innocent civilians in particular.

There appeared, however, to be a consensus among Palestinians that settlers in the territories were a source of local friction and settlements an obstacle to peace.

"If attacking settlers is supported by so many Palestinians, then the ability of the PA to take tough measures against the perpetrators, be it Hamas or others, is more limited," said Klein.

"Furthermore, I assume that Palestinians who study Israeli society have come to the conclusion that the reaction of the public to what occurs in settlements, which have an extremist image, is different than to bombings in the Mahaneh Yehuda market and the Ben Yehuda mall in Jerusalem.

"For these and other reasons, I would not rule out the possibility of initiatives against settlements by local Palestinians, including even perhaps members of the PA security forces, acting independently, as well, of course, as Hamas," said Klein.

Prof. Efraim Inbar, director of Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, concurred that there were logical reasons from Hamas's point of view for a shift in tactics away from mass killings inside the Green Line to more pinpoint attacks against settlers.

He noted that Hizbullah had several months ago recommended that Hamas concentrate on hitting settlers, because there would be less furor and outrage over such attacks both in Israel and abroad.

"From Hamas's point of view this would be good advice, although it's too early to conclude anything definite. I think we have to wait and see whether the recent attacks are coincidence or do indeed mark a change of strategy," said Inbar. "Killing Jews has always been a 'good policy' as far as Hamas is concerned, but what they are interested in is lowering the price for these deeds."

"In this respect, I think they would incur less wrath and outrage in terms of international public opinion and Israeli reaction by concentrating attacks on settlers. There may also be some Israelis, especially on the Left, who would deplore such attacks but who would say these are understandable and inevitable and that the settlers should not be there. Such attacks, therefore, could serve a purpose of further dividing Israeli society."

Inbar maintained that although members of the PA, including PA Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub and others, had depicted settlers as being the enemies of peace, the PA still had a duty to fight terrorism.

"I think the PA would have difficulty in publicly approving attacks against settlers because of its relations with Israel. This is terrorism and they are supposed to fight it," he said.

"On the other hand, it is more difficult for them, in terms of their own public opinion, to denounce attacks on settlers, because I believe that most Palestinians feel that they are justified."

Inbar said he expected an increase in these kind of operations, especially if there was no reduction in tension between Israel and the Palestinians.

"It could well be that the rationale for such attacks is also to cause provocation and try to drive an even greater wedge between the moderates on both sides by inciting the extremist elements," he said.

"I think that Israel, particularly in the event of any further withdrawals that would leave settlements surrounded by Palestinians, should consider cutting its losses and decide already at this stage to even evacuate some of those settlements in exchange for something from the Palestinians."

"If not, we may eventually end up leaving such settlements, or the people themselves will leave because they will not be able to bear the burden, and then we will not get any quid pro quo from the Palestinians. At the same time, we should try and bleed Hamas and other terrorist organizations by continuing to hit them wherever we can," Inbar added.

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In effort to bring Pan Am bombers to justice

# US agrees to trial in Holland

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration has agreed to allow two Libyans charged in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland to be tried by a Scottish court in the Netherlands, an administration official said yesterday.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was to notify families of the victims in a conference call, said the official.

The official said the plan calls for Abdel Basset Ali Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah, described as Libyan intelligence officers, to be tried in the Dutch capital by a panel of Scottish judges under Scottish law.

The official said it was not clear whether Libya would go along with the arrangement.

The goal is to see if we can't resolve this long overdue and outstanding case and bring these two men to justice," an unidentified US official told *The Los Angeles Times*. "This is a chance to move forward."

Britain announced yesterday that it has joined with the US in agreeing to allow the trial in the Netherlands.

Foreign Secretary Robin Cook urged Libya to cooperate "quickly and without equivocation," and asked UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to inform Libya of the

agreement and seek arrangements for the transfer of the two men accused.

The Pan Am bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, killed all 259 passengers and crew, and 11 people on the ground. At the time of the 1991 indictment, US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the midair bombing was "a Libyan government operation from start to finish."

In Britain, Jim Swire, the spokesman for relatives of British victims, said the families were delighted and expected the trial to proceed.

But some American families disagreed

with the decision.

"It's appalling," said Susan Cohen, whose daughter Theodora died. "What does it say about the integrity of the American legal system when a terrorist takes the line that he can't get a fair trial in America and wants it in a neutral country — and we agree to hold a trial somewhere else?"

The US position all along had been that the two Libyans should be turned over to American or British authorities for trial, but Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi refused. His regime had long sought a compromise location and an international panel of judges.

## Ministry readies plan for rise in Russian immigration

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A team from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and the Jewish Agency is preparing a plan for a possible sharp increase in the number of immigrants arriving from the former Soviet Union, the ministry announced yesterday.

Yitzhak Feller, media adviser to Minister Yuli Edelstein, said the plan will focus on providing housing and employment in eight locales throughout the country if a large-scale departure of Jews emerges from continued economic deterioration in the Russian Federation.

"The idea is to convince people that Israel has good things to offer them compared with Europe and even the United States," said Feller.

Eight locales are being targeted by the team as sites to absorb an influx of Russian immigrants, he said.

It has not yet been decided whether or not some of the target communities will be across the Green Line.

"This question has not been raised yet," Feller said, but added that it would probably be discussed during a meeting on Sunday.

To the extent possible, those drawing up the plan are aiming to have immigrants matched up with employers before they leave for Israel.

Officials are expecting a seven percent drop-off in immigration from the former Soviet Union during the coming twelve months, Feller said. But if the economic downturn continues, they expect the numbers to rise by about 10,000 to approximately 60,000 during the same period, he said. If there is no such rise, the plan will remain on the shelf.

The team is headed by Jewish Agency director-general Dr. Shimon Shoshani and Absorption Ministry Director-General Shulamit Canaan.



Livnat welcomes Thatcher

Lady Margaret Thatcher (right) meets with Communications Minister Limor Livnat at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem yesterday. Thatcher is in Israel as part of a mission on behalf of the Jerusalem Fund of Aish Hatorah, a yeshiva based in the capital's Old City. The mission also includes New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman, Senator Joseph R. Biden of Delaware, and former UN ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick.

(Photo: Judy Siegel/Text: Amy Klein)

## Jerusalem hosts science contest tonight

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Olympiada, the Recanati National Science Museum's annual international science competition for youth, is to be held this evening in Jerusalem and broadcast on Channel 1 a few days later.

Eight teenagers from Israel and the US have reached the final: Shahar Abin of Holon; Ma'an Assa of Gadera; Nir Drieman of Ra'anana; Eldad Kaftan of Ramat Gan; Dorit Gelkin of Beersheba; Josh Picar of New York; Samuel Lipoff of Boston and Jeremy Medvov of New Jersey.

They beat out 44 other youngsters aged 14 to 16 who took part in semi-finals at the Haifa museum after thousands of teenagers previously participated in qualifying exams.

Now in its tenth year, the competition is focused this time on "Chemistry — Secrets of the Basics" as a salute to Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann, who was a chemist.

During their 10-day stay in Haifa, the 52 pupils conducted experiments in the museum's labs, listened to lectures, met with scientists and went on tours of scientific facilities and industries. The winners will receive a cash prize.

The Olympiada is sponsored by the Science and Education ministries, the Weizmann Institute, the Haifa Municipality, the Jewish Agency, the Doron Foundation and the Israel Electric Corporation.

## Tnuva: No growth hormone in our milk

By JUDY SIEGEL

Tnuva managing director Arik Reichmann yesterday denied claims by the importers of bovine growth hormone that its use is growing and that some farmers have injected their cows with it secretly to make up for lost milk production caused by the recent heat spell.

"I don't say there's something wrong with the hormone, B.S.T.," Reichmann said. "It has been approved by the Health Ministry and the World Health Organization and is used in the US."

"But for the time being, Tnuva will not accept milk from cows that have received such injections. Even without conducting a poll, we know our customers don't want hormones in their milk."

"We have an intelligence system on the farms

to find out whether cows are getting the hormone, and if we catch anyone, we will immediately stop accepting his cows' milk," Reichmann declared.

Tnuva purchases most of the milk produced by the country's farms.

Reichmann was commenting on a statement by S.H. Engineers, the importer of the growth hormone, that because of the recent heat wave, sales of the hormone has doubled.

The hormone, S.H. Engineers continued, "increases injected cows' milk production by 10% to 20%," so that the effects of the heat are minimal.

A spokesman for the company also quoted an unnamed farmer from the Kinneret region who said: "Despite the fact that I signed a commitment to Tnuva not to use the hormone, I prefer

getting up at 4 a.m. and injecting my cows with it secretly to prevent almost totally the reduction in milk production [due to the heat]. I can't handle the losses caused by the exceptionally hot summer."

But Reichmann maintained that the figures on a doubling of hormone use was "fabricated" by the company, along with the claim that farmers who signed a Tnuva commitment were injecting their cows anyway.

"S.H. Engineers is talking about this because of its lack of success. If it were succeeding, it wouldn't talk."

Reichmann was named to his position some three years ago after his predecessor was found to be allowing silicone to be added to some of Tnuva's milk products to reduce foaming in the machinery.

## NEWS in brief

### Cabel, Arutz 7 withdraw High Court petitions

MK Eitan Cabel (Labor) and the directors of Arutz 7 withdrew their opposing High Court petitions on the court's recommendation yesterday, after the State Attorney's Office announced it planned to indict four of those involved in the station.

Cabel had asked the court to order the station radio station closed, while the directors had sought to prevent its closure. Cabel said he reserved the right to resubmit his petition if the indictment process takes too long. The directors declined comment.

Im

### Chief rabbis meet Latin patriarch

Chief rabbis Eliahu Bakshi-Doron and Yisrael Meir Lau yesterday visited Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah, to discuss the role of spiritual leaders in promoting peace in the region.

The 50-minute meeting took place at the Latin Patriarchate, near Jerusalem's Old City. The patriarch had visited the rabbinates on March 23.

The three hope to include Moslem leaders in future meetings, which have not yet been scheduled, the patriarch's adviser, Wadie Abunassar.

Amy Klein

### Byzantine ruins found in Karmiel

Several buildings, including a wine press and a church, said to date back to the 6th or 7th century, have been uncovered in Karmiel, during legally mandated excavations carried out at a site that is to be developed as a public park.

The ruins, which apparently belonged to a monastery, are to be made part of the park and will be opened to the public.

Edna Stern, the Antiquities Authority official overseeing the dig, said that when the Moslems conquered the area, the monastery was abandoned, and in the 8th century a ceramics factory was erected at the site.

A kiln and other equipment used by ceramics was found, as were numerous pottery shards.

Jerusalem Post Staff



### International appointment

Prof. Eliezer Robinson (above), chairman of the Israel Cancer Association, has become the first Israeli president of the International Union Against Cancer. The union is a roof body of national cancer associations around the world. Robinson is also chairman of the Health Ministry's National Oncology Council and of the Israel Association for Clinical Oncology.

(Text: Judy Siegel; photo: Israel Sam)

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## Wagging the dog

Was that really a pharmaceutical factory in north Khartoum after all? Or did the Americans blunder and destroy the main supplier of medicines for wretchedly poor people?

What's going on here? Aha! Here we shall demonstrate the well-known innuendo by question mark technique, used to disguise the fact that the writer has no answers. It was beautifully refined by the pseudo-science writer Eric von Daniken many years ago in "Chariots of the Gods" - a childish alien-conspiracy bestseller peppered with innuendo by question marks.

Take ancient lines etched on a Peruvian landscape, or a piece of crumbled junk from a Turkish archaeological site and ask, "could this be the landing field for alien starships?" or "could this be an ancient alien battery?" Aha, indeed.

Like other sectors of the media who have no direct and immediate access to secret US intelligence information, we are all free to leap on the bandwagon of speculation which rolls over the splinters of fact. So let's go wag the dog.

### Powdered pap

As long as Washington buttons its lip on the evidence, the propagandists are having a field day in a wide open field. Thus we saw BBC men clambering freely over the ruins in Khartoum, explaining in awe that they have absolute freedom of access in their quest for not finding chemical weapons. A "factory manager" obligingly ate some powdered antibiotic to prove how safe - nay beneficial - his produce was.

One cannot help but recall the similar clambering of anxiously gullible television crews over the remains of the "powdered milk" factory outside Baghdad during the Gulf War. Outside the ruins, a new sign obligingly proclaimed "Powdered milk factory." In English.

This is Chariots of the Media Gods, but in reverse. Instead of visiting a powdered milk factory and asking "could this be a cover for making nasty chemical weapons?" just put the vice versa, and voila, we get: "Could those sinister American intelligence agencies be lying through their X-files to hide the fact that they secretly wanted to bomb the aspirins of poor goat-herders in a remote Third World village?"

Doesn't anyone else suffer from attacks of deja vu on this story?

### Nukes? No way!

Take the Jordanian experts who supervised the construction of the pharmaceutical factory in Sudan, and who on Saturday assured the world that the site had no capability to produce chemical weapons.

One, Ahmad Salem, the engineer credited with drawing up the plans for the Al Shifa factory in 1993, said it was designed to

produce 50 types of human medicine and veterinary drugs. "There is no chance this factory could be used to produce chemical weapons," said he.

How weird is expertise sometimes. Seventeen years ago, I

recall sitting in the office of a Lebanese-run Arab diplomacy newsletter, where I was an analyst, sifting through mountains of expertise from French and other engineers who assured the world that the Iraqi reactor bombed by the IDF was purely, one million percent, peaceful. Such esoteric stuff as floor-plate thicknesses, cauldron temperatures and neutron enhancement theory were cited as proof by the men who built Ostrak that "there is no chance this factory could be used to produce nuclear weapons."

### Get Bill!

But, to pose another question or two by innuendo, if Iraq was merely up to its neck in powdered milk and peaceful neutrons, where did all that nasty stuff uncovered by the Gulf War forces and seven years of UN inspections come from?

Why did the Jordanian experts, Sudanese ministers and Islamic Conference Organization not call in teams of breathless television reporters to denounce the bombing of the embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, and promise every possible cooperation in finding the "real" perpetrators?

If the propaganda tails of spineless Arab propagandists are wildly wagging the factless information hounds of the West, they are being assisted by the noisy rat pack of the "get Bill Clinton" lobby, which appears terrified that the president may actually have done something they might have to approve of - like bombing terrorists in their lairs.

A widely distributed Internet newsletter on the Middle East yesterday lambasted "one major Israeli paper" for being soft on Clinton - twice in one week even. The newsletter quoted an anonymous "Israeli reader, in academics, kindly [explaining] the gooey-eyed Israeli attitude towards Clinton: 'Because he shed tears for Rabin, hosted the Oslo signing ceremony, and came here after the terrorist bombings with the right words.'"

What shameless crimes; impeach that man at once, before he heads for Ireland next week to praise their wretched peace process and say right words over the Omagh bombing. And, oh, the horror of Israelis remaining loyal to their best friend at a time like this.

The newsletter obligingly supplied us with a new innuendo by question mark, regarding Khartoum filing a complaint with the UN over the bombing:

"It does invite the question whether the Clinton administration has Osama bin Laden too exclusively on the brain" (rather than Iraq, the newsletter's primary theme).

Pass the dog.

### Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

# Castro savors a comeback cigar

The long-time Cuban leader is enjoying his role as the elder statesman of the Caribbean

By DAN PERRY

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic - For years, many have predicted the fall of Fidel Castro as an inevitability in a new world where markets, McDonald's and Madonna hold sway. But the resilient old revolutionary is still very much around.

This weekend marked what seemed like the Cuban dictator's crowning as the elder statesman of the Caribbean, a region that longs for a role, and possibly a leader, in a post-Cold War era where it feels adrift.

Castro, who three weeks ago toured Jamaica, Barbados and Grenada, was invited to observe a Caribbean Community summit in the Dominican Republic - a country that shares a fascination with Cuba but shunned Castro during his four decades in power.

His real role was far greater than that of an observer.

Castro, 72, cast a large shadow over the summit, projecting benign authority as he lectured against US domination. Aides even distributed pamphlets of his recent speeches.

In the streets of Santo Domingo, people delighted in professing support for Castro even while opposing Communism. The thousands of Cuban exiles here limited their protest to newspaper advertisements while some streets filled with signs welcoming "El Comandante."

"Castro is a very important man, no?" gushed Maria Torres, a 42-year-old seamstress who lives off \$200 a month. "Maybe he can help us improve our lives."

For Castro, whose ambitions of fomenting armed global revolution were frustrated throughout the world and right here in the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean is a scaled-back, but satisfying, arena for a comeback late in life.

For the Caribbean, an alliance with the area's largest nation - even in its impoverished state under Castro - offers much-needed diplomatic muscle. It is an unmistakable signal to the United States, which has outraged Caribbeanans by neglecting the region after the Cold War, reducing aid, and even fighting the trade advantages enjoyed by their vital banana industry in Europe.

Thus there's real sympathy here for Castro the underdog, who has survived four decades of US enmity and outlasted his Soviet patrons. Sentiment in favor of ending the 37-year US economic boycott of Cuba - perceived as inf-



A Dominican places a poster of Castro reading "With Fidel Always" on a tree in Santo Domingo last week. The people of Santo Domingo delighted in professing support for Castro during his visit - even while opposing Communism. (AP)

fectual arrogance that only harms the Cuban people - is authentic and overwhelming.

Castro himself has become more ideologically palatable, too.

His attacks on capitalism now are more muted. Communist Cuba is courting investors from Europe and the Caribbean. Now it is mainly an "unbridled" form of capitalism that Castro rails against, and Caribbeanans together he preaches.

Unless it overcomes differences born of competing French, Spanish, Dutch and English cultural influences, "the Caribbean confronts the serious danger of marginalization," he warned Friday.

These are ideas that strike deep chords in the Caribbean, where people feel their small, divided island nations cannot compete with global powers without a few "uncapitalistic" trade concessions like the banana benefits.

Nowhere has the rapprochement been more striking than in Santo Domingo, which stokes the Caribbean imagination as the oldest European-style city in the Western hemisphere and shares centuries-old historical ties with Cuba.

Onetime Marxist - and former president - Juan Bosch was once exiled to Cuba and led a failed 1947 expedition to oust

Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo in which Castro took part.

Their boat was stopped and the dissidents disbanded before they left Cuban waters.

Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista fled to the Dominican Republic after his ouster by Castro in 1959. Castro then sponsored a small invasion against Trujillo, whose military annihilated the invading force. Trujillo responded by backing Cuban exiles in a frustrated attempt to overthrow Castro.

When Castro landed here last week, he seemed close to tears, saying he "couldn't believe" he was finally here. Many Dominicans felt the same. (AP)

## Times are tough in war-torn Congo

By ARTHUR MALU-MALU

KINSHASA - The talk may be of war but Henri, a 53-year-old Congolese businessman, is determined not to let it interfere with his Sunday morning jogging with his friends.

Henri and friends turned out - as they do every Sunday - at a dusty track round a soccer pitch in the northern Gombe district of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's capital Kinshasa.

"We don't feel too threatened," he said, his T-shirt stained with sweat. Asked if the war would disrupt what has become a Sunday tradition, he replied: "No."

"We come here to keep fit," one of his friends - men and women of various ages - chimed in.

Elsewhere in the city, soldiers and a range of supporters of President Laurent Kabila from across Kinshasa turned out for a different kind of jogging - an

organized protest run against Rwanda and Uganda.

Kabila, who toppled veteran dictator Mobutu Sese Seko in May 1997, accuses his then allies Rwanda and Uganda of invading to fight alongside rebels who took up arms against him on August 2.

Henri, while sanguine about the war, preferred not to give his family name.

Kinshasa may be calm with no sign of a much-trumpeted rebel advance but war is war and times are uncertain.

These are hard times in the city of more than five million people. The rebels control the giant Inga Dam in the strategic western River Congo corridor linking Kinshasa to the sea.

The dam, built under Mobutu and once dismissed as a white elephant, supplies Kinshasa, the neighboring Congo Republic capital Brazzaville and mines in the mineral-rich south with electricity and has the potential

to supply much of Africa.

Repeated power cuts, denounced by the government as an attack on innocent civilians, have disrupted water supplies and intermittently halted gasoline pumps at service stations.

The rebels cut off the fuel pipeline from the oil town of Moanda to the capital a week ago and stopped tanker traffic.

Prices of staple foods such as pounded manioc, corn and beans have soared, doubling and even tripling in some cases.

"Those who can, have stocked up with tinned food. It's the surest way of getting through this," says Blandine Bakaya, a trader and mother of two children.

But many in the sprawling city on the banks of the Congo River just don't have any spare money to stock food. "Of course it is only a tiny minority who can stock up on food, particularly as people are not paid regularly," Bakaya said.

Most of the city's inhabitants scratch a living from petty trading or growing vegetables.

"The people here live from day-to-day," a Congolese Roman Catholic priest commented. "If the bread seller has no bread to sell he and his family go hungry. It's the same for the ice seller and many others."

Supplies of bread, ice and foodstuffs that need refrigerating have been hit by the power cuts. So too have water supplies, which need power to make the pumps work.

The government has power from a smaller hydroelectric dam at Zongo in the west but not enough for the whole city.

"We have bought barrels to store water. When the power goes off, so does the water," says Eugene Mwisa, a high school teacher and mother of four children. "The uncertainty about what will happen tomorrow makes us take precautions."

Sellers of charcoal braziers have done brisk business in a city forced to return to the ways of village life. "At least we can prepare the food using braziers," Mwisa said.

Many of the poorer people have always relied on charcoal for day-to-day cooking but the surge in demand has pushed up prices of that along with other basic commodities.

Western diplomats express concern about the power cuts, saying that they raise questions about human rights - an issue the government has also been quick to seize on.

The government also expresses concern about the spread of water-borne disease and the impact on the sick and vulnerable.

Some government officials have talked of babies in incubators and old people dying. Medical officials say that, on the whole, hospitals have so far managed to cope using generators and water tanks. (Reuters)

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# Yeltsin asks Russians to support gov't changes

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** — President Boris Yeltsin appealed to Russians for support in a nationwide television address yesterday after he unexpectedly sacked his prime minister and summoned back former premier Viktor Chernomyrdin.

A Kremlin official said the country's troubled economic reforms would stay on course but predicted "serious changes" in their implementation.

Yeltsin dismissed Sergei Kiriyenko's four-month old government on Sunday and named Chernomyrdin as acting prime minister in a bid to restore stability to Russia's financial markets after months of economic turmoil and a plunge in the ruble's value.

Chernomyrdin had served Yeltsin loyally for more than five years until his own abrupt dis-

missal in March for failing, in the president's words, to push market reforms vigorously enough.

"The main priority is not to allow any steps backward, to maintain stability. Today we need people known as heavyweights. I consider the experience and weight of Chernomyrdin essential," Yeltsin said in his televised address.

"I ask [parliamentary] deputies, regional leaders, and all the citizens of Russia to understand me and to support my decision. Today's situation is not the time for long discussion. And the main thing for all of us is the destiny of Russia, stability and normal conditions for Russia's citizens."

Yeltsin was fulsome in his praise of Chernomyrdin, effectively endorsing him as heir for

presidential elections due in 2000. "He has not been spoiled either by power or by his sacking. I believe these qualities will be a decisive argument in the presidential elections," he said.

But most eyes were more on the immediate implications for ailing economic reform and moves to restructure debt.

Kremlin spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said market reforms would stay on course, but added: "From the point of view of practice, of implementing practical measures, we must expect serious changes."

Yeltsin, back at work for the first time in weeks after an extended summer holiday, praised Kiriyenko for "manfully" grappling with Russia's deep economic crisis, saying nobody could have predicted a few

months ago that turmoil on world financial markets would hit the country so fiercely.

Kiriyenko had long been derided by opponents as too young and inexperienced.

Yeltsin held talks with Chernomyrdin in the Kremlin. He also met outgoing Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin, Defense Minister Igor Sergeev, and the director of the Federal Security Service (FSB), Vladimir Putin.

Chernomyrdin, 60, faces an uphill battle to win the approval of the opposition-dominated State Duma lower house of parliament, raising the prospect of prolonged political uncertainty. But he has powerful allies in industry, especially the key oil and gas sector he once presided over.

Parliamentary leaders sounded a note of defiance, saying they had no plans to reconvene the Duma this week.

"We decided not to hold sessions this week," Alexei Mitrofanov said after a meeting of Duma leaders. "If Yeltsin insists on his request we could perhaps meet next Monday."

But the reaction of foreign allies was warmer. Germany rallied behind Chernomyrdin, saying his return was a boost for reforms. The United States said a US-Russian summit would go ahead as planned next week.

Chernomyrdin was quoted by Itar-Tass news agency as saying his main priority would be Russia's battered financial markets.

"The first matter I will deal with in the post of acting prime

minister is an analysis of the financial markets and stock markets of Russia," Chernomyrdin was quoted as saying.

Moscow was due to announce later yesterday a plan to restructure \$40 billion worth of domestic debt. The restructuring, expected to go ahead as planned, involves swapping short-term debts which are expensive for the government to service with cheaper longer-term paper.

Interfax news agency said Chernomyrdin had spoken by telephone with US Vice President Al Gore and with influential Russian regional leaders, including the ambitious reserve general and likely future presidential candidate Alexander Lebed, now governor of Siberia's Krasnoyarsk region.

Lebed said Chernomyrdin was

the best man for the job.

But sources in the main opposition Communist Party told Reuters they wanted Yeltsin to withdraw his nomination of Chernomyrdin pending consultations with political factions. They also said they would demand portfolios in any new government.

The 450-seat Duma has one week to approve the president's choice with a simple majority or reject him. If the chamber rejects the president's candidate, he has a week to offer the same person or someone else for parliamentary approval.

If the Duma rejects the presidential candidate or candidates three times, Yeltsin automatically dissolves the Duma and calls a new election. He can then simply name his prime minister.

## Taleban leader tells bin Laden: Don't threaten America

**ISLAMABAD (Reuters)** — Afghanistan's Taleban Islamic movement has told Saudi exile Osama bin Laden not to make threatening statements against Americans after the recent US strikes, a Pakistan-based Afghan news service said yesterday.

Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) quoted Mullah Mohammed Omar, the supreme leader of the Taleban militia, that he had expressed his "anger" to bin Laden on Sunday over his threats of retaliation against the US.

Bin Laden had said last week that a war had started and Americans should wait for an answer after their attacks.

"I sent a message to bin Laden yesterday making it clear to him not to make military and political statements against anyone from our soil," Omar told AIP from his headquarters in the southern Afghan city of Kandahar.

"I am angry because Osama is making anti-American statements from our soil and I stressed on him not to do so," he said.

"He [bin Laden] has broken his promise of not using our soil for making such statements, because he had been stopped from doing so in the past as well."

But Omar said bin Laden, who is somewhere in Afghanistan, had agreed to "obey" the Taleban's instructions and promised not to make any further statements against America.

"There cannot be two different and parallel emirates [or governments] in Afghanistan," Omar earlier told *The News*, an English-language daily on Sunday.

The militia has condemned the

US for its Thursday attacks in which at least 21 people were killed in Khosht, near the Pakistani border.

The Taleban, who control most of war-torn Afghanistan, say they would not turn over bin Laden to the US and have vowed to defend him against possible attacks.

bin Laden, who deals involvement in the August 7 East Africa embassy bombings, has been reprimanded in the past by Taleban authorities for making anti-American statements.

"We have a central Taleban-led authority ruling the country and it ought to be obeyed," Omar was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

*The News* said the Afghan leader was sending an emissary to bin Laden to tell him to show restraint and leave it to the Taleban to take measures to defend themselves and give an appropriate answer to the US.

US President Bill Clinton said he had ordered the cruise missile strikes because he had "convincing evidence" that bin Laden's group had played a key role in the bomb attacks on US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Bin Laden, born to a wealthy Saudi family but stripped of his citizenship, has lived in exile first in Yemen, then Sudan and now Afghanistan.

He has been linked to two previous attacks on Americans in Saudi Arabia and has vowed to wage Jihad against US forces there because of American support for Israel and US "occupation" of the land of Islam's two most sacred shrines, in Mecca and Medina.



Sudanese women shout anti-American slogans during a demonstration in Khartoum yesterday. (AP Photo/Enric Marín)

## Sudan to hit back at US with 'legal means'

**KHARTOUM** — Sudanese President Omar Hassan Bashir said yesterday his country reserved the right to hit back at the US for destroying a Khartoum pharmaceutical plant, but would act within the law.

Bashir again rejected US charges that the \$32 million plant produced a nerve gas component or had any connection with Saudi-born dissident Osama Bin Laden.

Sudan has asked the UN Security Council to send a fact-finding mission to inspect the factory, which the government says is owned by Sudanese businessmen Salah Idris and Ahmed Idris.

Bashir said the US had relied on "false information" from what he called treacherous Sudanese opposition groups.

The US carried out the strikes against what it called "terrorist-related" targets in Sudan and

Bashir said. "We demand that the American president apologize to the people of Sudan and demand the necessary compensation for the factory or factories that were affected and the people who were wounded."

Bashir reiterated Sudan's denials of US charges that the Shifa pharmaceuticals plant produced a nerve gas component or had any connection with Saudi-born dissident Osama Bin Laden.

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The US carried out the strikes against what it called "terrorist-related" targets in Sudan and

Afghanistan after this month's bombings of US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam in which more than 260 people were killed.

Washington accuses Bin Laden, who moved to Afghanistan from Sudan in 1996, of playing a key role in the bombings.

Bashir said Bin Laden had not been involved in any terrorist activities while in Sudan and had left of his own accord because his presence was prompting US allegations against Khartoum.

He said Sudan wanted strong support from the Arab League, which was due to meet in Cairo last night to discuss the US raid.

"In our experience... the Arab League contents itself with condemnation," he said. "We hope this time the reaction will match the size of the event, in that an Arab League member has come under direct aggression in clear

violation of international law."

Several hundred Sudanese women gathered in Martyrs Square yesterday — the latest of several demonstrations in Khartoum since the Shifa factory was flattened in a missile strike that wounded about 10 civilians, five of them seriously.

Loudspeakers relayed military music and truckloads of paramilitary police stood by as security men marshalled the protesters, who chanted "Down, down, USA."

"The Americans have no evidence that Sudanese people were involved in Nairobi, no evidence at all," said Leila Mohammed Osman, a woman employee at the Bank of Khartoum.

"I feel sorry for them [the Americans], because they did a bad job. I am calling on mothers in the United States and Britain to stand with us," said Aisha Karar, a teacher.

## Kabila's army, allies pressure rebels

**KINSHASA (Reuters)** — President Laurent Kabila's forces and their allies have blocked a rebel advance on the capital Kinshasa and are harrying rebel positions in the west of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, sources from both sides said yesterday.

Witnesses heard heavy shelling on the front line southwest of the city yesterday morning. Loud explosions started around Kasungulu, a town 30 km. from Kinshasa, said a Reuters correspondent close to the front.

There was no immediate comment from rebel commanders and it was not possible to determine whether the fighting represented a rebel advance or a government counterattack.

The rebels say that Angolan troops, backing Kabila, have recaptured their rear base in the western garrison town of Kikona. The government says that Congolese forces retook the town.

"We have made a strategic pull-back," rebel political spokesman Arthur Z'Abidi Ngoma told Radio France International.

Rebel commanders in the strategic western Congo River corridor linking the capital with the sea said loyalist forces had once again attacked rebel positions with air strikes on Sunday.

Rebel commanders said on Sunday that Kinshasa was better defended than they had expected.

With the rebels holding the giant Inga hydroelectric dam in the western war zone, Kinshasa itself awoke after a seventh night without electricity, but the city was calm and there were no immediate reports of major incidents.

Kabila's Justice Minister Mwenze Kongolo, who represented him on Sunday at a southern African summit in Pretoria called by South African President Nelson Mandela to end the crisis, told French Radio that the rebels are "in disarray." He said that a ceasefire call from the Pretoria summit took account of Congo's view that Rwanda and Uganda, accused by Kabila of invading to fight alongside the rebels, should withdraw immediately.

"So long as they begin to pull out, we will not fire on them, but if they stay there and continue with their adventure, we shall be obliged to expel them by force," he said.

The summit took place with Mandela and others expressing fears that the three-week old war could escalate into a regional conflict.

## Burmese opposition protest ends after rally

**RANGOON (Reuters)** — Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi returned home in an ambulance yesterday, ending a 13-day protest against the military government's restrictions on her movements.

Suu Kyi, 53, entered her residential compound shortly after more than 100 students staged a rare protest in support of her National League for Democracy's (NLD) vow to assemble a parliament.

The sit-down protest against the government, which was broken up by riot police after about an hour, was the first of its kind since December 1996, when the authorities closed the country's universities after a series of student protests.

One diplomat quoted NLD

sources as saying Suu Kyi's health was very poor. He said authorities had set up heavily guarded road blocks around the gates to her compound.

The 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner and three supporters had been sitting in a minivan outside the capital since August 12, having been denied permission to travel west and in turn refusing government demands to return to Rangoon.

Suu Kyi ended her protest just hours after her party issued a statement saying senior party members had beseeched her to call it off due to her "critical health condition."

A government statement welcomed Suu Kyi's return from her "visit" to the village of Anyarsu, 32 km. from Rangoon.

## Petition seeks charges against alleged killer's friend

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — More than 20,000 people have signed a petition urging prosecution of a man who kept silent after his best friend allegedly raped and strangled a 7-year-old girl at a Nevada casino, organizers said.

The petition was circulated at the behest of Yolanda Manuel, who has called for authorities to charge

David Cash Jr., 20, of La Palma, as an accessory to the May 1997 sexual assault and slaying of her daughter, Sherrie Iverson.

Cash, a sophomore at the University of California, Berkeley, was not involved in the crime, but saw the initial stages of the attack in a casino bathroom stall and did not try to save Sherrie, police say.

In addition, Cash remained silent even after his friend Jeremy Strohmeyer allegedly told him he killed the girl, police say.

"Morally, David Cash has the blood of Sherrie Iverson on his hands," said Najee Ali, a Moslem clergyman who led the petition effort.

Organizers collected more than

20,000 signatures, double their goal, which they plan to turn over to Nevada authorities.

Strohmeyer, 19, who lives in an upper-middle-class neighborhood of Long Beach, has pleaded innocent to the slaying at the Primus, Nevada, casino. But police say he earlier confessed three times to the killing.

## Hurricane Bonnie heads for US coast

**NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)** — Hurricane Bonnie ambled toward the southeastern US coast yesterday, prompting residents from Florida to North Carolina to stock up on emergency supplies and tune in to weather reports. Rip tides related to the storm claimed two lives.

Bonnie intensified Sunday with winds upwards of 115 mph, and the National Weather Service said a hurricane watch may be issued for a portion of the southeastern US coast.

Rip tides were blamed for the deaths Sunday of a 25-year-old man in South Carolina and a 24-year-old man in Delaware. Thirty people were rescued in Carolina Beach, N.C., and 100 were saved in Atlantic City, N.J.

"The rip tides haven't been this bad since 1995, and we're expecting them to be even worse

over the next few days," Carolina Beach Police Chief Mark Dunford said of the narrow channels of water from shore.

At 8 a.m. EDT, the National Hurricane Center outside Miami reported the 400-mile wide storm was centered 165 miles northeast of San Salvador in the central Bahamas.

A hurricane warning remained in effect for central Bahamas and a hurricane watch was issued for the northwestern Bahamas.

The hurricane — a Category 3 storm capable of causing severe coastal flooding and serious damage to buildings and homes — had been wobbling toward the north for hours, and was drifting northwest about 5 mph.

Hurricane-force winds extended 85 miles out from Bonnie's center and tropical storm force winds could be felt 200 miles out.

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# Visitors create a shrine at Diana's crash site

By CRISPAN BALMER

PARIS — "Wow, what a beautiful place to die," murmured Jane Smith from Canada as she stood on the banks of the River Seine and stared at the concrete tunnel where Princess Diana was driven to her death.

A year after the high-speed crash which killed Diana, her companion Dodi Al-Fayed and their driver Henri Paul, tourists continue to pour into the Place de l'Alma to see the site of possibly the most famous car accident in history.

There is no commemorative plaque to mark the spot and no plans to put one up. So, in a heady display of tourist power, visitors have created their own shrine for the princess.

The fact they have hijacked an unrelated monument for their cause and invariably go to the wrong end of the tunnel to pay their respects makes little difference to most people.

"I think we need a focal point for our feelings. Whether it is here or 100 meters down the road doesn't really matter," said Guillemo Vores, a visitor from the south of France.

Within hours of Diana's death, people began gathering above the underpass in Place de l'Alma where the now-famous Mercedes Benz limousine lay in a crumpled wreck.

Police sealed off the entrance nearest to the accident site so people

went to the other end, where a golden replica of the torch held by the Statue of Liberty in New York was erected in 1987 by the *International Herald Tribune* newspaper to celebrate both its 100th anniversary and Franco-American relations.

After the crash, it rapidly became decked out in flowers and is still the main attraction for Diana fans in Paris.

"She was a flame of liberty herself, fighting against the monarchy. It's a very fitting symbol for her," said Lorena Romani from Como, Italy.

For those who support conspiracy theories — and a lot of people who do — the site — the symbolism is all too much.

Diana's car sped along a road named Queens' Court then Albert I Court before swinging into the tunnel. On the right there is George V Avenue and the Prince of Wales Hotel. Beyond the underpass there is the Liberty flame and New York Avenue.

"They deliberately chose this place to kill her. She was striving for freedom but never managed to escape," said Smith, who was spending her summer holidays visiting key Diana sites in both Britain and France.

SO great is the interest in Diana that one hotel has started its own "Diana Tour" taking in the key sites — the Ritz Hotel where Diana and Dodi enjoyed their last meal



Tourists continue to crowd the underpass in Place de l'Alma, where the now-famous Mercedes Benz limousine lay in a crumpled wreck one year ago. (AP)

to Place de l'Alma and onto the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital where Diana died.

Over the months, the square's gilded torch has become covered with Diana graffiti. Poems and pictures are stuck to its base and flowers are constantly laid on the plinth.

The messages range from the simple to the bizarre, from the sad to the saccharin.

"An Angel on earth. RIP," reads one tribute.

"I love you, Baby, I love you," reads another.

A young child's drawing of an angel has been stuck to the monument. "To Princess Diana. From

Tomme Fox. PS: we're on a trip," the note says.

"Diyena is my best friend," someone else has written, while another message reads: "Lady Di lost in Space."

Numerous messages say simply: "It was not an accident."

Two or three times a day, retired boxer Georges Latrache comes to the torch to tidy up the flowers, clear away old messages and stick down new ones. Known as the 'Keeper of the Flame,' Latrache is not paid for his efforts.

"I do it for Diana. She did a lot of good in her life. I love her," he says.

Not everyone is so enthusiastic about the way the torch has become swamped in Diana memorabilia.

"This flame not only is not dedicated to the memory of Princess Diana but it also diverts your attention from the true place of the so-called accident," one note says. "To the respect of the three victims, please go that way."

The vast majority of tourists do not take heed, preferring instead to pose for photographs in front of the squat statue before heading off to nearby attractions such as the Eiffel Tower and the Champs Elysees.

Some hardy souls make it across the streaming traffic to reach a small path which leads down to the roaring four-lane underpass. If you lean over the railings you can glimpse the tunnel's 13th pillar which the Mercedes struck as Paul

lost control of the car.

Earlier this year, Italian architect Gaetano Pesce proposed to set up a stone and resin column above the pillar as a permanent tribute to Diana, but the project was rejected by Diana trustees in Britain.

There are no other plans to erect a monument, or even a plaque, to Diana in Place de l'Alma. There is just a vague idea to dedicate a child's park to her somewhere in the city.

That is not good enough for many visitors, who believe Diana merits immediate recognition in the city of her death.

LOCALS seem a bit weary and think the tourists need more shepherding.

"Everyone keeps asking where is Place Diana. I tell them there is only Place de l'Alma," said Ammar Boukhal. "In the end they will have to put up a statue or something."

As he speaks, first one then another double-decker tourist bus does a slow tour of the square, a mass of faces peering out of the tinted windows to catch a glimpse of nothing much.

A Frenchman lays a bunch of daisies on the plinth, next to a mass of pink rose heads laid out in the shape of a heart.

"Are we going overboard about all this? I mean she wasn't a God," said Smith as she surveyed the ranks of Diana well-wishers. "But she was a saint." (Reuters)

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سكنى من الامم



# The razzle-dazzle spirit of Pocahontas

## ICE SHOW REVIEW

When Woody Allen learned that a certain religion he's considering is based on the principle that people will repeat their lives over and over again, his initial sarcastic reaction is "Great, that means I'll have to sit through the Ice

**THE SPIRIT OF POCAHONTAS**  
Yad Eliahu Stadium  
August 18

Capades again." Woody must never have seen a Disney on Ice extravaganza.

Israel has rarely seen such a precise, intricate and rousing display of talent as is currently on exhibition at Yad Eliahu in Tel Aviv, courtesy of Walt Disney's World on Ice.

Every year, the troupe takes on a different theme, but this is the first year in which an entire fable has been tackled by the skating and theater combo.

The opening-night crowd for *The Spirit of Pocahontas* contained some of the elite of the Israeli entertainment industry with their brood in tow, including Avi Kushner, Anat Atzmon and beau Dan Turgeeman. They were not disappointed.

The show was just what you would expect from one bearing the Disney name, and more – outlandish costumes, exquisite stage setting and scenery and energetically choreographed ensemble work.

I don't know the difference between a figure eight and pique, but hardly anyone fell down, and the skaters performed with such grace that at times you'd forget they were on skates. The performers moved their mouths to the canned Hebrew soundtrack, but few audience members seemed to care that they weren't singing live.

The only complaints, heard throughout my section, was about the sound system, which while fine for the music reverberated too much to make the Hebrew words very intelligible. Considering the hefty price a family would have to pay to attend the extravaganza, more care should have been taken about the sound.

THE HALF-HOUR delay in the opening of the show was quickly forgotten by the razzle-dazzle of the British sailors, led by John Smith, a harrowing storm scene on the way to the New World, and the graceful Johanna Ng as Pocahontas, making a graceful and enchanting entrance.

Both Ng and the dashing Roland Darghart as Smith rose to the task of leading the show, and contained more than enough star quality to carry the evening.

However, they had some help from some terrific props including spurring storm rain, a whole forest of trees, a high-tech talking weeping willow, muskets that flashed and went bang, and some great acrobatics from the skaters.

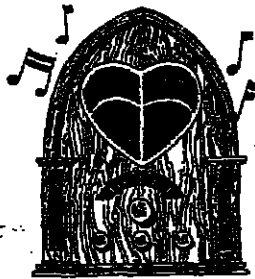
It might be cliché to say that there was something for all ages, but one thing Disney has down cold is how to entertain. For over two hours at Yad Eliahu, there was no doubt that the crowd received family entertainment at its finest.



The graceful Johanna Ng as Pocahontas has more than enough star quality to carry a show whose terrific props include a high-tech, talking weeping willow.

## Pop goes back to school

### In Tune



By David Brinn

Two discs by relatively new female artists reflect the tail-between-the-legs conservative trend in the music business. The bottom has fallen out for so many rock-oriented artists, that companies are only developing those acts which sound like tried-

### THE BOY IS MINE

Monica  
(Red Artz)

### SIREN

Heather Nova  
(NMC)

### SKINNY

Steve Hindalong  
(Red Artz)

### ADAM COHEN

Adam Cohen  
(NMC)

and-true sellers.

Hence, we get Monica's *The Boy Is Mine* and Heather Nova's *Siren*, with hardly an original bone in their svelte bodies, but with commercial success all but assured.

Monica, still in high school but already releasing her second disc, is under the Swedish hold of Arista Records prez Clive Davis, who has performed similar Midas-like magic with diva Whitney Houston and other soul-pop clones.

*The Boy Is Mine* contains all the requisite requirements for a Top



Monica

40 hit in the late 1990s – a duet with an interchangeable sound-alike Brandy on the title-track, a "collaboration" with Sting (actually a steal from "Shape of My Heart") and tons of inoffensive and unstimulating dance pop. Many vacuous teen stars develop into artistic, visionary adults. Let's hope Monica breaks out of Davis's hold and follows that route.

HEATHER NOVA, as opposed to the light touch of Monica, goes the "tough rocker" route which made millions for Alanis Morissette and has been copied by everyone from Meredith Brooks to Natalie Imbruglia. Nova's second disc, *Siren*, is virtually indistinguishable from the aforementioned artists. Here the obligatory signatures are using at least one four-letter word colloquialism for making love to give the artist street credibility and Nova goes for it right away in the second song "Blood of Me."

The music rocks reasonably well and Nova possesses a pleasing vocal style to complement her decent melodies. Despite many positive qualities, Nova's mining the same vein that is already close

to tapping out of any vitality.

CONTEMPORARY Christian music has usually been easy to pick out among the rock landscape by its rousing *Godspell*-like sheen and uplifting outlook. Steve Hindalong seems to have come to the genre by way of rock 'n' roll from the *beatland*. The music on *Skinny* is inventive and crisp, with traces of John Hiatt, John Mellencamp and post-punk rock creeping out from the mid-tempo rockers and mournful ballads that run against the grain of the expected.

However, the overtly Christian tone of the lyrics, unlike other Christian-oriented artists like U2 and T-Bone Burnett who express their beliefs in the most general terms, weigh the music down with a proselytizing heaviness that destroys the goodwill built up by the music. Jesus may save, but he can't save this disc from its ill-advised attempt to fuse some terrific arrangements with lyrics that belong in church.

ADAM COHEN's eponymous debut paints him as a brooding, urban poet, which isn't surprising considering he's the progeny of Canadian poet laureate Leonard Cohen.

Fixed on the kinky side of relationships, Cohen, looking like a cross between his father and Michael Keaton's younger brother, probably didn't crack a smile making this dark, dour disc.

While the music is understated folk-jazz, most of the lyrics seem to emerge straight from an analyst's couch.

Cohen's stark and sometimes startling declarations make one stand up and take notice, but it's more for shock value than lasting musical artistry. The opening up of his dark secrets may be therapeutic, but it's not necessarily fun to listen to. Don't expect Cohen to fill his father's shoes anytime soon.

## The burden of being a Jackson sister

By ROBERT HILBURN

There is so much of the ambition and glamour of a Broadway musical in Janet Jackson's new *Velvet Rope* tour that it's only fitting that the concert program credits her as the show's "creator and director." Those aren't terms normally employed in the pop-rock world, but Jackson backed them up before a capacity crowd of 13,000 at the General Motors Place arena in Vancouver with a dazzling package, complete with snappy choreography, a colorful array of costumes and often striking staging.

As she stood onstage after the final encore, Jackson, 32, fingered, clinging to the thunderous applause in a way that demonstrated a personal vulnerability and warmth that may be the real breakthrough of the tour.

In the past, the youngest daughter of one of America's most celebrated – and controversial – showbiz families often became so caught up in the razzle-dazzle that she ended up somewhat anonymous. And that's a problem that still arises at points in the *Velvet Rope* extravaganza.

Yet there were several moments in the show when Jackson stepped beyond the production values and touched us in a way the best pop performers have done over the years.

From the playfulness of the fairy tale staging of "Escapade" to the artful musical stretch of "Got 'Til It's Gone" (the marvelous track she built around a sample of Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi") to the intimacy of her soul-searching "Special," Jackson has put a personal stamp on this show that humanizes not only the music but also the performer.

JACKSON believes that much of this radiance and warmth is the result of her own newfound self-esteem, a process that she says

grew out of a frequently painful soul-searching look at some of the insecurities that have plagued her since childhood. It's a condition she explores in several of the songs on her album *The Velvet Rope*.

Together, the tour and album should go a long way toward helping Jackson finally get the credit she deserves as an artist.

Though she has sold more than 40 million albums in the last decade, much of the pop world found it hard to take Janet Jackson, the artist, seriously. It's part of the price you pay being born into a showbiz family, in which it's easy to think everything was handed to you.

But being a part of the feuding and often troubled Jackson clan was even more of a challenge.

When Jackson's new album got off to a slow start in the United States late last year, it was even tempting to think that she was caught up in the backlash that has undercut brother Michael's commercial standing there.

Though fiercely loyal to her family, Jackson acknowledges that being associated with them has been a burden as well as a blessing.

On the personal front, things are looking up for Janet Jackson. Sales of her new album have surpassed the 2-million mark and her manager, Roger Davies, says ticket demand on the tour is so strong that the number of dates has been expanded from 50 to 60.

Backstage before her Vancouver concert, Jackson spoke about the tour, her new self-esteem and her famous family:

**Q: Why do you put together such a lavish show each time out?**

To me, being on stage is about entertaining. I know there are people who just walk on stage and give you a show by just doing their music, but I always wanted something extra... the way P-Funk and those guys used to do it, back when their huge mother ship land-

ed on stage. I've always loved that.

**You literally grew up in show business. Do you ever ask yourself if it's what you really want to do?**

Yes and no. As a kid, you don't know what you are getting into. But as an adult, I had the [chance to make a] decision. I could have said I am going to go back to school and support myself by acting, which is what I wanted to do. But I did *Fame* [the TV show in 1984] for my father. He wanted me to do it. That's when I decided that I wanted to take control of my career and take a serious stab at it for myself. That was when I made my choice. It was my decision [at that point].

**What about your personal life. Do you see yourself having children?**

I don't know if I will have kids.... That's something I really have to work on. [Pause] I have this fear of not being a good enough parent.

**How do you think your parents did raising you?**

I think that's where the fear comes from.... I think it comes from certain mistakes that your parents made. I'm not saying my parents [mess] up in any way. I think they did a wonderful job.... First of all, it's not easy having

nine children because someone is going to get left out – someone isn't going to get the attention they need at the moment [they most need it]. If I did have children, at the very most, I could see myself with three, but probably one. That's a lot of love you need to spread out, and you have to give love-to-yourself as well. When do you have time?

**How is your relationship with Michael these days? You mentioned in a *Vibe* interview earlier in the year that you haven't spoken to him in two years.**

Everyone thought we were fighting, but it was just that we were both so busy. We've spoken since then, but we haven't had a solid, deep conversation. I spent an hour with him and the baby.

**What about the tone of the new album? What led to that?**

I was bummed out. The album is about looking inward and discovering who you are... finding out the person inside of you. Finding that we are special inside. Several things helped me do that. That's why I am so thankful that I got to that place.

I wasn't there before. I never liked myself before. I hated myself. I can honestly say that I like myself now.

(Los Angeles Times)

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## Zimriya's cosmopolitan choirs

By Ury Eppstein



Concert Review

The results of 12 choral workshops directed during six days of the Zimriya for its participating choirs by internationally renowned conductors were presented in its closing concerts.

**ZIMRIYA**  
Jerusalem International  
(Convention Center)  
August 17-19

These workshops represented an enormous variety of choral music and performances.

A most outstanding one was that directed by Germany's Frieder Bernius, one of the world's lead-

ing choral conductors. His wise selection of Verdi offered romantic music without posing virtuoso demands.

The excellently trained Junges Vokalensemble Hannover as its nuclear force and two local groups – the Tel Aviv Chamber Choir and the Gittit Choir – made this workshop one of the few that went far beyond merely accurate notes. It also displayed artistic musical shaping of the pieces, subtle shadings of dynamics and remarkable expressiveness.

Werner Pfaff from Germany, in a fascinating selection of miniature-like songs by Hindemith and Vaughan Williams, also concentrated on refinement. The highly energetic University Choir of Los Angeles from Colombia, together with the Galilee Choir, responded sensitively to the conductor's intentions.

The premiere of a work celebrating Israel's jubilee by the Swiss Dominique Gessner-Rappo, *Del*

*Populus Liberatus* was featured by the workshop of Switzerland's Andre Ducet. Faithfully following the syllabic structure of the Latin biblical text, the piece sounded appropriately solemn (and pedestrian), letting the percussion steal the show from the Hong Kong Oratorio Society Choir and the local Meitar Choir.

Israeli music was represented by conductor Michael Shani with the devoted Los Angeles Zimriya Chorale and the Philippines Madrigal Singers. They performed Aaron Harlap's *Sing unto the Lord* and Meir Mindel's *Maya Prophecy*.

The workshops' weakest points were those where the repertoire selection was dictated by the conductors' pretentiousness. Demanding masterworks such as Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, presented by Dale Warland and Joseph Flummerfelt from the US, predictably resulted in mediocre performances.

## Time in the desert

### DANCE REVIEW

By BARBARA KATZ

The main event of the Ethnodance celebration of ethnic music, dance and food was the world premiere of

### NOMADES-ISRAEL

By Anne Marie Porras  
Nevah Oler  
August 19

*Nomades-Israel*. This performance brought together French choreographer Anne Marie Porras and seven of her dancers with a group of Israeli dancers and musicians, four members of the Divana group of Rajasthan, India, and a few members of the Alaei family who immigrated to Israel from Bukhara. For 20 long minutes, several employees of the Tel Aviv munic-

ipality grabbed the opportunity to praise each other for the happy occasion, coming on the eve of local elections.

But, after the long and boring introduction, *Nomades-Israel* turned out to be a rather colorful event.

The music – that combined the unusual sound of authentic instruments from distant cultures – drew a lot of attention. The passage of time in some remote desert community was conveyed with a certain rhythm that resembled the motion of a caravan of camels in the dunes.

On the other hand, Porras's choices of movement were often too banal, at times lulling the senses. But the exceptionally well-rounded duet of the charismatic Franek Delevallez and his supple partner Aline Azcaga stood out for both emotion and style. Unfortunately, moments like these only accentuated the weak points of the dance as a whole.

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## Oslo's accomplishments

In one of history's strange twists, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu finds that the more he expresses his distaste for the Oslo Accords, the more he illustrates their staying power.

Neither Netanyahu nor any of his ministers attended the celebration in Oslo yesterday, at which Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and former prime minister Shimon Peres were honored guests. Yet it is Netanyahu who has – grudgingly – done a great deal to maintain the process the Oslo Accords began.

It is almost hard to remember how different the political landscape of the Middle East was when the first agreement in the Oslo process – the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles (DOP) – was secretly initiated five years ago. Shimon Peres witnessed the initialing of the DOP, but could not sign himself because the Israeli cabinet had not yet authorized negotiations with the PLO.

The heart of that accord was the act of mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO. For years, Israel had argued that the only hope for a workable agreement was with the Palestinians in the territories, rather than the PLO, which, as a group of exiled terrorists, was the most intransigent Palestinian element.

By negotiating Oslo, Israel stopped holding out for a more moderate negotiating partner, in the hope that the PLO could transform itself into a body dedicated to living peacefully alongside Israel, rather than one bent upon Israel's destruction.

On both sides, Oslo's framers realized that neither side was ready to negotiate a full-fledged peace agreement – mutual recognition was as much as the late Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat thought their respective populations could swallow at one time.

Oslo's task, then, was twofold: to build confidence between the parties over a transition period, and to create a momentum that would drive the parties toward a final-status agreement.

Regarding the first task, Oslo has largely failed. The crackdown by the Palestinian Authority after the wave of suicide bombings in February and March 1996 was a case of too little, too late. Netanyahu's subsequent election led to a spiral of further souring relations, as the Palestinians responded to firmer Israeli demands by accusing Israel of intransigence.

But in the second equally difficult task, Oslo has succeeded beyond all expectations. Though born under a Labor government, Oslo has not only survived into a Likud era, but has gained support.

The redeployment in Hebron – the last, most sensitive stage of Israel's exit from seven Palestinian-populated cities – was postponed by Rabin and Peres and implemented by Netanyahu with an 80-vote Knesset majority. Assuming that the "second redeployment" package is finalized, it, too, will pass the Knesset with a much larger majority than the Oslo agreement itself, which passed by one vote.

Though the peace process train has slowed under Netanyahu, it seems less likely to derail than when it was moving more quickly. This perception is confirmed by the fact that, though the left-wing is clearly unhappy about its pace and concerned over the fate of the peace process, it is the right-wing that has taken to the streets to protest the government's peace policies.

Of course, even a train going at moderate speed can go off a cliff. As the May 1999 official end of the so-called interim period looms, the future of the process becomes even murkier.

By gradually placing over 90 percent of the Palestinian population under Palestinian civilian control, Oslo has laid the groundwork for some kind of Palestinian state. Though the Israeli government will not say so, both sides take this as a given, and are now jockeying to determine the limits of that state, both in size and in attributes of sovereignty.

From Israel's perspective, Oslo was a major gamble, in that it requires Israel to trade concrete assets, such as territory and sovereignty, for a more abstract and reversible Palestinian commitment to peace. The nature of that gamble does not change as the parties approach final-status talks.

The challenges of keeping the negotiation process free of violence and terrorism, and producing a stable final-status agreement are perhaps even more formidable than those faced at the outset of the Oslo talks. Though Oslo has not delivered us to this point without pain, nor can it assure us any certainty regarding the future, it has brought us far, and must be built upon, rather than destroyed through violence or stalemate.



## The right to know

A public commission on malpractice suits and the confidentiality of medical records is slated to publish its conclusions by the end of this month.

However, media reports on preliminary drafts of its deliberations indicate that one decision is almost certain to appear in the final draft – the burial of a landmark 1995 Supreme Court ruling giving patients the right to access reports of internal reviews conducted by hospitals.

Just as the patient has the right to know what will be done to his body, so, too, does the patient have the right to know what has been done to his body," wrote Supreme Court Justice Aharon Barak in his ruling.

The medical profession, however, disagreed, and it got the legislature on its side. In 1996, a so-called Patients Rights Law was passed, which stated that internal reviews could remain confidential.

However, it added, the conclusions of such reviews must be included in the patient's medical records. The public commission, set up in 1995 and headed by Tel Aviv District Court Judge Gabriel Kling, is now expected to recommend that even this sop to the patient's right to know be eliminated. A large majority of the committee has accepted the medical profession's argument that without total secrecy doctors will not cooperate with the review boards, and the truth will never be uncovered.

Clearly, there is something to this argument. However, uncovering the truth does little good if no one acts on it – and hospitals, unfortunately, have strong incentives not to act unless pushed by the threat of a public outcry or a lawsuit.

There are two reasons for this. First, a hospital almost never gets credit for acting against a malefactor. Instead, the public castigates it for having let the doctor in question work there as long as he did. It is therefore usually in the

hospital's interest to hush the affair up.

Secondly, doctors often have a strong self-interest in not getting rid of less competent colleagues, because the resulting shortage in manpower would mean more work for them – and most are already overworked.

Israel has plenty of certified MDs, so it might seem easy to replace the guilty party with someone better. However, as in any other profession, this pool includes many people who are poorly

**Patient ignorance is a dangerous norm for a medical system to encourage**

skilled, careless or callous. Finding a good replacement can be difficult, and the remaining doctors would suffer in the meantime. The war against malpractice is not, however, the only reason for opposing the Kling Committee's recommendations. Equally important is what these recommendations would do to the norms of ordinary medical practice.

Israel is still a country where the patient's right to know about his illness and treatment is often disregarded. Giving legal sanction to the confidentiality of internal reviews is therefore liable to reinforce the medical community's too-prevalent belief that it is okay to keep a patient in the dark.

Requiring patients to be given access to these records, however, sends a clear message in the opposite direction. It reinforces the teaching that a patient has "the right to know what has been done to his body."

## Lessons learned

Now that the settlement has been reached between the Swiss banks and Holocaust survivors, it is worth reflecting on some of the lessons of this two-year struggle.

1) Political pressure is necessary to achieve success.

Let us not forget it took the Swiss fifty years to address the question of their behavior during the war and it only happened because Jewish organizations, led by Edgar Bronfman and the World Jewish Congress, and American politicians and officials, led by the Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat and Senator Alfonse D'Amato made it clear that the Swiss would pay a heavy price if they did not address the problem. Unfortunately, too many nations and individuals don't do the right thing on their own and pressure becomes necessary.

2) Justice must be achieved, but never at the expense of the central moral issues of the Holocaust.

As we move forward in educating future generations about the destruction of European Jewry, we must continue to seek ways to make the increasingly distant events relevant to their lives. It will take creativity and each generation must be taught in a different way. What must remain constant is that the Holocaust was, above all, the triumph of evil in the form of an effort to wipe out a people simply because of who they were not what they owned. Any effort to recover the funds that rightfully belonged to Jews and their families but were stolen during and after the war must not obscure what the Holocaust was about for new generations.

3) Antisemitism is still alive and well, and all parties to such disputes must find ways to mitigate these manifestations.

We have always believed that

ABRAHAM H. FOXMAN

antisemitism is a phenomenon that has little to do with Jews and more to do with the fears, prejudices, and insecurities of other groups and nations. The surge of antisemitism in Switzerland these troubled years – including anti-Jewish phone calls, letters, comments – indicates that Switzerland has a major challenge before it.

Its leaders ought to examine what they could have done and what they have to do to deal with residual public prejudices against Jews.

At the same time, American Jews must look at the way they conducted their campaign. While acknowledging that pressure was needed and that burgeoning antisemitism reflects an internal Swiss problem, we must examine our own behavior to see if at certain points we could have worked toward our goals but in a way that would ameliorate an antisemitic backlash. This is not a theoretical exercise because other situations will surely arise when political pressure may be required. Two areas to consider are closer consultations with the local Jewish community which will be the party directly affected by resurgent antisemitism; and setting goals and sticking to them, i.e. keep the pressure on to achieve these goals, but don't move the goal posts which might lead to cynicism in a public susceptible to the message of antisemitism.

4) The importance of Jewish unity through a healthy consultative process. Keeping in mind that the most important objectives are not to lose sight of the tragedy of the Holocaust and to make sure that funds go to those survivors who have claims and those who are

While the situation is certainly improving, anyone who has spent time in an Israeli hospital can attest to the fact that not only is information routinely concealed from the patient, but this is considered right and proper.

During a lengthy hospital stay in Hadassah a few years ago, for instance, I was told for days that my doctors did not know what was wrong with me. I found out otherwise only because Hadassah is a teaching hospital, and a professor stopped by my bedside one day to give his students a detailed lecture on the nature of my illness and how it had been diagnosed.

Only one of the three doctors present admitted to seeing something wrong with that method of communication.

When I once tried to examine the results of my daily blood tests, I was told by an orderly that I had no right to see them. I argued that since it was my body, no one had a better right than I to know what was happening to it, but he insisted that only doctors have the right to see the lab tests; they would tell me what they thought fit for me to know.

Hadassah, incidentally, was far superior to the only other Israeli hospital I have ever dealt with. Yet throughout my five-week stay, I found that doctors never voluntarily disclosed information, and did not even offer patients a chance to ask questions. The most they would do is respond to specific questions if the patient asked them insistently enough.

Patient ignorance is a dangerous norm for a medical system to encourage, not only because it results in doctors making choices the patient would disapprove of, but because an informed patient can actively assist in his own healing.

The Kling Committee had the opportunity to strike a powerful blow in defense of the right to know. It is unfortunate that it appears to have chosen instead to defend the cause of ignorance.

neediest, it is vital that Jewish organizations and representatives work in unison. The process has been most successful when Jewish representatives reached agreed upon goals and presented a united front. If, at this point, some will break rank and go out on their own and squabbling will emerge concerning the allocation of funds, then we will end up undoing some of the good that was achieved in the complicated process. The memory of six million and the future ability to keep that memory alive demand a united community.

5) The American government once again demonstrates its unique ability to be of assistance in protecting the rights of Jewish in the world.

With certain tensions arising in the US-Israeli relations these days, the Swiss gold issue reminds us what a unique friend American Jews have in our own government. Whether it has been the issue of the Soviet Jews, Ethiopian Jews, Syrian Jews, the well-being of Israel, and now, justice from Switzerland, it has been the willingness of one presidential administration and Congress after another to work with American Jewry that has helped achieve great things. In dealing with issues related to the Holocaust, the stark difference of America today as compared to the 1930s and 1940s can never be overestimated. The American factor should never be taken for granted; we should express our gratitude and continue to encourage American policies that lead the effort towards justice, human rights, and democratic values in the world.

Abraham H. Foxman is National Director of the Anti-Defamation League.

## Follow the Irish

YOSSI BEILIN

President Bill Clinton may be right in declaring that terror is the new expression of violence. In some parts of the world, the negative energies which once erupted into wars are now channeled to terror.

There is no doubt that it is extremely difficult to combat terror – the enemy is more elusive than in a conventional war, and a considerable degree of international coordination and sophistication is required to reach those responsible for terror and silence them.

There are different forms of terror: terror for terror's sake, a form of "clockwork orange," exemplified by the Japanese group which killed subway passengers with toxic gases. There is terror against leaders – such as the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, and there is ideological terror – religious or nationalist, such as the extreme nationalist groups in Ireland and the Hamas.

The religious-nationalist combination typified both Irish and Palestinian terror for many years. True, the Irish and Middle East situations are very different, but they also bear some similarities. After decades of violence, both are showing signs of reaching a solution, albeit a painful one. Historical conflicts are not easily solved.

This week we celebrate five years since the signing of the Oslo Accords.

We should by now, have carried out three redeployments from Judea and Samaria and be approaching the conclusion of the permanent settlement agreement. Instead, there has not even been one redeployment, nor has a single discussion taken place on the permanent settlement.

Just a few months after the agreement was signed, Baruch Goldstein massacred Palestinians praying in the Machpela Cave, and exactly 40 days later a chain of Palestinian terror began. Some Jews are convinced that we gave up too much, and some Palestinians are convinced that they received too little.

In Ireland an agreement was signed leading to a referendum and a high level of autonomy, but there are extremists on both sides who believe that the agreement has betrayed their principles and that only they, the extremists, reflect the true positions of their respective camps.

HOWEVER, herein lies the difference: In Ireland a terrible act of terror took place. Twenty-eight people were killed and dozens injured. Innocent people paid for Catholic extremism with their lives. The entire world wept for the victims, identified with the families and prayed that the terrorists would not succeed in stopping the peace process.

All those involved, from Britain's prime minister to the last of the Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland, committed themselves to the continuation of the peace process and not a single (!) voice was heard calling for the Protestants to end the process on the grounds that the Catholics could not be relied on, that they speak with two voices, that on the one hand they condemn the killing and on the other encourage violence, and that until all violence ends the talks will not be renewed.

Only such staunch determination could have forced the terrorists to declare an end to their activities. In contrast, the first response in Israel to the miserable murder of Rabbi Ra'anan in Hebron on Thursday night was a call by the settlers to halt negotiations with the Palestinians.

There is terror in Kenya and in Tanzania. There is terror in Algeria and in India. In Israel and in Ireland. We must not submit to this terror. It must be fought in every possible way – with our heads and with weapons.

It is not a freak of nature and it can be beaten, much as we have beaten other evils in the past.

But instead of Israel serving as an example of how to wage war against terror, we have become an example of how to capitulate to it; today, the Irish present the best example of how to overcome it.

The Israeli Right, which believes that it is frightening someone by calling for an end to the talks after terrorist incidents take place, fails to understand the obvious. There is no better way than this of proving that terror has succeeded. Continuing the talks – as the Irish have shown – is the greatest blow to terror, until an agreement is achieved.

The right wing is entitled to oppose peace and any territorial compromise, but in heaven's name, do not link this to terror. They surely do not want the terrorists to be rubbing their hands in glee after such vile murders. When there is terror, the fight against terror must be increased and we must not submit to its perpetrators. We ought to learn something from Ireland.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE OFFENSE OF THE CROSS

Sir, - Originally the cross represented, for the followers of Jesus, the ultimate symbol of self-sacrifice and humility.

For many years following the crucifixion of Jesus, it seems that the cross remained, for the most part, only a literary symbol. Early Christians apparently refrained from depicting it figuratively since it struck fear in their hearts. They knew that at any moment the Roman authorities might arrest one of them who would be hauled off to be crucified for his or her faith. In ancient times the cross was not a decorative charm but an emblem of terror. Who today would wear a chain around his neck with a guillotine, and electric chair or a gas chamber dangling from it?

When St. Paul the Apostle spoke of the offense of the cross (Gal. 5:11), it is clear he was speaking of self-sacrifice. He was saying that a believer must be willing to accept the shame associated with the Savior's. Jesus admonished anyone who wished to follow Him to take up his cross (Luke 9:24), even as he carried his own cross to his death. This meant the giving up of personal ambitions to serve God and one's fellow man, holding in higher esteem another's dignity above one's own and the complete surrender of personal rights for the sake of others. Such an acceptance is indeed deathly offensive to a person's ego and pride.

How tragic that the symbol of the cross was twisted into having the very opposite meaning

through ignorance but also through deliberate malice. It became a symbol of religious pride, national egotism, leading ultimately to bigotry, intolerance and hatred. As it is well known the greatest part of this malice was expended upon the Jews, the very people from whom Jesus and his first followers first came. History witnesses to the dreadful effects of this terrible wrong which in our century culminated in six million Jewish deaths.

It is ironic and terribly sad that today a manifestation of the same evil is again springing up at the very place which most exemplifies this grave and ugly crime in the recent past. The insistence of zealous Poles to erect high, garish crosses at Auschwitz under the pretext of honoring the Polish Catholics who died there, is a thin disguise for their grim motives of nationalistic religious pride and competition. Far from honoring the memory of Christians who perished at the death camp, such insensitivity brings disgrace and shame, not only upon them, but upon all Christians and ultimately upon the name of Jesus Himself.

It is time for all who name themselves as followers of Jesus to stand and denounce this ugly exhibition of religious hooliganism and the offensive abuse of the Christian's most precious emblem.

YEHUDAH RAPIANO  
Jerusalem.

### NO COMPROMISE

Sir, - Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's interview with the German magazine *Focus* where he said that security with Syria depends on the amount of Golan that Israel returns is a misreading of Syrian President Hafez Assad's mindset. Assad cannot and will not compromise on the Golan. He must get it all. He is Alawi, a ten percent minority ruling the Sunni majority. If he gives any part of the Golan to Israel, he gives the Sunni a ready argument against Alawi rule. Assad will never allow Israel to keep any part of "sacred Syrian soil in the Golan". While Assad knows he can control the State while he lives, he has no certainty that his successor (son) will be able to do likewise.

It is a given. There is no possibility of a compromise on the Golan.

ARTHUR GRUDER  
Jerusalem.

### DIFFERENT WORLDS

Sir, - Your columnist Jonathan Rosenblum must have gone to a different Yale than I and he must live in a different Israel than I. He remembers the Yale Phi Beta Kappa who knew nothing about Judaism and I met great Jewish scholars there. In Israel I meet children (many of them sabras) for whom the haftorah reading on their bar mitzvah is an unknown text. Perhaps the 'Jewish Wasteland' is not geographic, but is about whether one attempts to be inclusive about Jews and bring them home or rejects them as strangers. It is difficult to read Jonathan Rosenblum and think of him as being inclusive to Jews who live outside his self-imposed ghetto.

MOSHE REISS  
Zichron Yaakov.

### BENEFIT EVENTS

Sir, - I was extremely pleased to read about the successful benefit events of Tel Aviv University in Monaco at the end of July. We are proud to note that Hugo Ramincaanu is Chairperson of the French Friends of Tel Aviv

University and not the Hebrew University, as noted in Greer Fay Cashman's Grapevine of August 7.

ORLY FROMER  
Head of Tel-Aviv University press office.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On August 25, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that according to a statement issued by the Palestine Emigration Office in Berlin, the German Government had agreed that an amount of up to three million marks may be taken out of

the country in the shape of German goods of any kind by Jews settling in Palestine.

50 years ago: On August 25, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that Mr. Elias Sassoon, former head of the Arab section of the Jewish

Agency's Political Department, and currently serving with the Near East Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met Arab leaders in Paris for preliminary discussions of a peace settlement.

Alexander Zvielli



# Honoring your neighbor

Forsan Hussein grew up in the Galilee village of Sha'ab, educated to believe that loving his homeland meant hating his enemy, the Jews.

"I would go to the fields with my grandfather, and he would say, 'This field used to be ours, but it's not ours anymore,'" Hussein, 20, recalls.

Yoav Borowitz, born and raised in Tel Aviv, didn't know much about Arabs and didn't meet one until he was 17.

"You don't learn about Arabs in the media or in the Israeli educational system — and when you do, it's not positive — to say the least," he says.

Through a twist of fate, and the generosity and idealism of an American businessman, Hussein and Borowitz are now close friends. They are both third-year students at Brandeis University, on full scholarship endowed by Wall Street investor Alan Slifka.

The journey from Sha'ab and Tel Aviv to Waltham, Massachusetts began several years ago when Slifka, decided to create a co-existence scholarship at Brandeis. Slifka, founder of the Abraham Fund, which supports Arab-Jewish projects, proceeded to look for suitable candidates.

But in truth, both young men started down the road to a four-year scholarship at a top American university long before that.

WHEN HE was 10 years old, Forsan Hussein's teacher took his pupils to meet their Jewish neighbor.

A Wall Street investor has set up a \$1 million scholarship fund at Brandeis University to pay for the studies of two Israelis — one Arab and one Jewish — in the hopes that they will return home as ambassadors of peace, Ruth Mason nwrites

bors — they went to plant trees at Moshav Shorashim on Tu B'Shvat.

"I was holding a little tree and I was thinking, 'How can I go and plant trees for these people who pulled out our trees?'" Hussein recalls.

But, when he arrived at Shorashim, a resident offered him some chocolate chip cookies. It was a turning point in young Hussein's life.

"I was expecting these Jews to meet me with guns; I knew that

Jews were evil people," Hussein says. "But when I was offered those cookies, I felt there was something wrong — that there was more to the story."

Two weeks later, the children of Shorashim came to visit Sha'ab. The meetings continued and Shemesh, an organization dedicated to friendship between Arabs and Jews in Galilee, was born. Hussein eventually participated in the organization's leadership development program.

When someone from Shemesh spotted Slifka's newspaper advertisement, they suggested Hussein apply. He had been planning to attend university in Israel, but he ended up with a full scholarship to Brandeis University.

GROWING UP in Tel Aviv, Borowitz recalls meeting Arabs for the first time while working at a factory when he was 17. But his new friends lived in the territories and the friendships were limited to the workplace.

In the army, Borowitz's base was located next to a Druze base and the soldiers ate their meals together. Borowitz often sat with the Druze, but again, contact was limited by the circumstances.

"I'm a very curious person," says Borowitz, 23, who comes from what he calls a "tight traditional" background.

When he was interviewed for the scholarship, Borowitz lamented the difficulty of meeting an Arab in Tel Aviv.

"I told them we had not had one meeting with an Arab class during all of my schooling. I told them it was a shame."

"If we want to live together, we have to not only respect each other but become friends. Now that I have this strong personal connection with Forsan, I know there is no reason whatsoever not to become friends."

As the Slifka Scholars for Co-existence, Hussein and Borowitz are well-known and active on the 3,000-student campus.

Both young men wish they had met earlier.

"This can only teach us and teach others that there is no obstacle for Jews and Arabs to understand each other and be friends," says Borowitz.

And both feel the experience abroad has changed them.

"There is a kind of time out from the *balagan* of the conflict here," Hussein says. "It strengthened my views that we have to see the other as human beings and not as an enemy that you can kill."

"At Brandeis, I go to Shabbat dinners and sometimes to Yom Kippur prayers and my friends sometimes come to the Moslem prayer room. It's not a big deal. Can this happen in Israel? You rarely hear about this here."

"At Brandeis, you are a human being before you are Israeli, Palestinian, or Jewish and this is what is great about being there."

In the US, Hussein also feels free of the constant difficulties of being an Israeli Arab. "I go to Tel Aviv or Jerusalem and people look at me like I'm about to plant a bomb," he says.

SLIFKA HAS high hopes for his two "student ambassadors of peace" and hopes to create, through a \$1 million scholarship fund, a cadre of young Jews and Arabs



Yoav Borowitz (left) and Forsan Hussein. "If we want to live together, we have to not only respect each other but become friends," says Borowitz. (Sarit Uziasly)

working toward co-existence.

Slifka's interest in Arab-Jewish rapprochement began during a family trip to Israel 10 years ago. While the trip included a visit to the Western Wall, Masada and other de rigueur sights, Slifka realized he didn't meet even one Arab.

On subsequent trips, when he asked Israelis about the major problems facing the nation, relations with the Arabs were often on the top of the list.

In remarks made in New York about why he started the Abraham Fund, Slifka said, "How could we Jews, a minority for thousands of

years, not recognize the inequitable status and the pain of our Arab minority? The answer is that the nice majority, unless educated for otherness and for co-existence capacity, loses sensitivity to the minorities in their midst."

Slifka sees co-existence in general as the "number one issue of our time." In a world growing ever smaller, it is possible, he says, to educate our young "to have pride in their own identity while 'respecting the other' who is different and lives next door."

Hussein puts it this way: "Arabs in Israel learn Torah. I did my

matriculation exams partially in Hebrew literature. But we didn't learn about Palestinian poets, Palestinian history. I see this as an attempt to demolish our identity as Palestinians."

"It's vitally important for me to learn about Yoav's culture, but it's equally important for him to learn about mine."

Borowitz and Hussein believe this kind of two-tracked education has to start early.

Says Borowitz: "If every Israeli class had a twin class in an Arab school for joint activities, a lot of friendships would be built."



"At Brandeis, you are a human being before you are Israeli, Palestinian or Jewish," says Forsan Hussein, an Israeli Arab on scholarship at the American university.

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# Cyber SJF seeks SJ mensch

Judith Forman enters the world of those who search for love online. You have to be brave to leap into it – but at least you don't need to figure out what to wear!

Marshella and Robert Merritt spend their evenings in quiet marital bliss, back-to-back at his-and-her desks in the living room, pointing, clicking and typing away at his-and-her computers.

It was just the kind of romance Marshella envisioned in June 1992, when she dialed into the computer bulletin board system operated by the man she would marry.

"I had just broken up with my ex-boyfriend and I thought about meeting people online," says Marshella, 29, who runs a day-care center in their Rosedale, Md., home. "I wanted to meet a young man who was knowledgeable and interested in computers and who was a homebody."

After a bunch of busy signals elsewhere, she got an answer from "Moon Base Tycho." Robert's sci-fi oriented bulletin board. They introduced themselves, met in person, chatted online night after night, got serious and tied the knot on June 27, 1993.

"If I had just met [Robert] out someplace, I probably wouldn't have been as interested in him," Marshella admits. "The Internet and the online world are so cool because you get a feel for what people are like. You're not swayed by looks. In a long-term relationship, it's the personality and interests that keep you together."

Robert, 28, an engineering technician, says simply: "We're made for each other."

IT'S a lot easier for singles to meet online today than it was when Marshella first dialed around. Internet matchmaking has become a booming business that draws millions of customers.

Many singles looking for relationships stop first at an online dating service such as Match.com, which has attracted more than 750,000 romance seekers since it was established in 1995.

The San Francisco-based company, owned by giant Cendant Corp., boasts that its online matches have resulted in more than 300 marriages, 15 babies and thousands of engagements, long-distance relationships and friendships.

After assuming an online handle that maintains their anonymity, new members fill out a questionnaire about themselves and what they look for in a partner – criteria such as religion, age, height, location, and drinking and smoking habits. They can also compose a personal profile describing themselves and attach

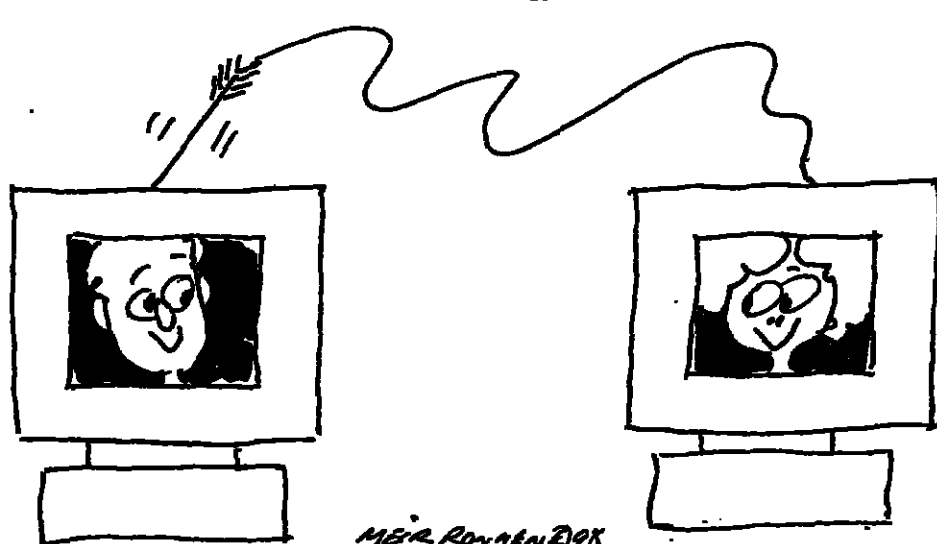
a digital photograph.

For about \$10 a month, the company's computer plays matchmaker and delivers a list of possibly compatible members. Plus, Match.com's subscribers have the opportunity to browse the database for themselves in search of prospective dates and a partner for the business of living happily ever after.

Trish McDermott, the company's online dating authority, said 20,000 new members register weekly – mostly 25 to 49-year-old professionals who earn \$50,000 or more annually. Match.com's clientele is about 45 percent female and 55 percent male, roughly the same as Web users as a whole.

"We knew we needed to build a site where women would feel comfortable and secure," McDermott said. "Then men would come."

The numbers are almost as large at oneandonly.com, a two-year-old dating service that claims 510,000 registered users.



"The biggest appeal is the convenience factor," said spokeswoman Lisa Kohring. "People

at a bar."

He responded to the ads of two women and has been exchanging e-mails with both. One has the same academic interests as McClain and has read some of the same novels, so they've been comparing notes. They've yet to talk on the phone or meet in person.

**"The Internet and the online world are so cool because you get a feel for what people are like. You're not swayed by looks"**

— Marshella, who found her husband on the Web



are not going to have to go out to a bar. They can sit down in front of the computer in their pajamas and correspond with someone."

That's what attracted Ryan McClain, 25, a network analyst from Colesville, Md. "Honestly, I wouldn't want a girl I picked up

DANA PEACH, a former marriage and family therapist from Tacoma, Wa., who is affiliated with oneandonly.com, believes that the high divorce rate and longer life spans are what have created what she calls "the largest population of single people in history."

"More than half of the people online are single. People don't just encounter the people they usually encounter in their daily lives."

According to Northeastern University Sociology and Criminology Professor Jack Levin, the eclipse of old-fashioned communities and social institutions has driven singles to the Web. He maintains that "there are simply far fewer places where single or divorced people can meet one another in a

traditional way."

Nancy Capulet, 42, author of *Putting Your Heart Online*, says the online experience can be overwhelming for women, who may get more than 100 messages when they first post their profiles, speculating that men typically take the initiative and send mail to multiple prospects.

Capulet, who met her fiancé online, says men can become disillusioned when they don't get responses and suggests that women at least acknowledge any message from a man who might be a potential match.

Those familiar with the online dating scene say these initial exchanges give many singles inflated expectations – and can result in dashed hopes.

"People assume far more than they should assume [online]," says Peach. "They think if someone flatters you and is interested, then they've got it. They're expecting things to go real fast, where it's just a beginning. It's not a magical thing – you have to work at it."

PROF. Levin sees a far darker side, calling the Internet "a pathological liar's paradise."

"Someone online can make false claims and in some cases completely fool someone into believing a fabricated story," he said. "Online, anything is possible."

When people meet in person, he said, they evaluate each other through verbal and nonverbal clues such as gestures, clothing and facial expressions. On the Internet, the only impression is a written one.

"People are so much more likely to give you a favorable impression rather than a true one online," he said. "It's an extension of the personal ad problem, where people made themselves taller, slimmer, wealthier, not to mention more beautiful. It's much worse online."

Those with experience agree that when meeting a new online friend or date, everyone needs to be careful.

"People need to employ a great deal of common sense when they meet someone online," said Daniel Janal, author of *Risky Business*, a book that explores the dangers of the Internet. "You should never give out your home phone number or address. Use your business or a P.O. box."

Ryan McClain said he understands the risks of online matchmaking, but is willing to accept them. "I can be sure there are people out there who do misuse [the Internet], but it's not a big deal. It's worth the chance to meet someone who is using it for the right purposes." (The Baltimore Sun)

## GRAPEVINE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Fred and Barbara Kort enjoy getting served by a couple of pint-sized waiters.

At last week's dialogue between haredim and people who are less or nonobservant, one of the main topics of discussion was an article on haredi-secular relations written by Rabbi Avishai Stockhammer, former secretary of the Council of Torah Sages, for the intellectual nonreligious publication *Alpazim*. Stockhammer had never met the editor, Nitzza Drori, although she had told him over the phone that the average length of an article was 10-12 pages. Stockhammer submitted 24 and – to his surprise – very little was cut.

When Hebrew University Professor Jacques Schlanger introduced the two at the dialogue, held at the Van Leer Institute, Stockhammer praised Drori's editing of his material. Looking her full in the face, Drori's sleeveless dress notwithstanding, the rabbi told her: "What you did was great." When it was pointed out to Drori, later, what a great mark of esteem it had been that Stockhammer hadn't averted his gaze, Drori replied: "So what? I looked him full in the face even though he was wearing long sleeves."

FREUDIAN slip or wishful thinking? When Science Minister Silvan Shalom delivered the keynote address at a gala dinner held at the Daniel Hotel Herzliya to celebrate the establishment of the Fred and Barbara Kort Sino-Israeli Fellowship Program at Bar-Ilan University, he meant to say that, as science minister, he wouldn't get into the subject of the economy. But what he actually said was, "As finance minister, I'm not going to get into the subject."

The slip provoked much laughter and a query of "Freudian?" from the crowd. Shalom conceded that it might be, adding that he knew some of his audience were under the impression that he was indeed going to be the next minister of finance.

On a more serious note, Shalom told Fred Kort: "If you survived Treblinka, one of nine [survivors] out of a total of 800,000 [prisoners] then it gives me courage that Israel can still exist, even facing a lot of difficulties. It still means that the Jewish people can have peace treaties with our neighbors."

Shalom noted that the Kort family had given the State of Israel a big push toward strengthening the relationship between Israel and China.

Kort, who lives in Los Angeles, drew a few laughs of his own when he referred to the 100 Chinese students whose post-doctoral studies he is sponsoring: "I'm going to be a father to 100 children who are all doctors! That's quite an honor."

THE Korts, who were staying at the Tel Aviv Sheraton, were inadvertently caught up in another project. Over 150 children of Sheraton Tel-Aviv staffers and travel agents spent a day working in all the hotel's departments, learning the value of tourism and how to treat tourists. So the Korts were served by twins Shani and Snir Schori, who, along with young bellhops, doormen, waiters

EVEN though it was Dad who got married, it is one of his sons who's taking an extended "honeymoon." Nir Baram, son of MK Uzi Baram, whose much-publicized marriage to Aviva Eidan took place earlier this month, is off to England and Australia for seven months, having amassed sufficient funds from the sale of his book *Tell Me a Love Story*.

THOUGH the election focus is currently on the municipal front, it is not improbable that the next Knesset elections will be held before the full term of the 14th Knesset runs its course. While pundits are speculating which of the existing smaller parties may find itself without a seat next time around, Histadrut chief Amir Peretz is exploring the possibility of fielding a Workers Party. In an era of rising unemployment, frustration and dissatisfaction he might very well emulate in the Knesset what Haim Ramon achieved in the Histadrut.

ON the municipal election scene, life is far from rosy for former cabinet minister Shimon Shetreet, who heads the One Jerusalem ticket. Aside from having Danny Bonfil, chairman of the City Hall Employees Committee, playing the role of viper in the political nest – even though both men are members of the same party – Shetreet now has to contend with efforts to oust his number two on the list, former deputy mayor and almost mayoral candidate Amos Mar-Haim. Although Shetreet may be disinclined to rid himself of a person as savvy and well-connected as Mar-Haim, he can't very well allow someone who's doing community service as part of a plea bargain deal on major income tax evasion to occupy the second slot. That would be an invitation to disaster.

HOW does Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert keep the bureaus from sticking to his waistline? By jogging around his neighborhood at the crack of dawn. Hizzoner has also been known to try out the fitness equipment in at least one capital spa.

RARE though it may be for politicians to keep their word, there are some who do. A case in point is Yehoram Gaon, who holds the arts and culture portfolio on the Jerusalem Municipal Council. Gaon, who is standing for re-election and pledged to do all within his power to preserve the city's historic landmarks, has successfully blocked attempts to destroy or disfigure historic sites. He's also done a tremendous amount to bring informal education in the arts to increasing numbers of children with learning disabilities. No wonder his campaign slogan is "I kept my promise."

IT'S not surprising that Yisrael Segal, who for the past five years has edited and presented the weekend newsmagazine on Channel 1, is moving over to Channel 2 to edit Nissim Misha's current affairs program. The two have

## When you're looking for love in Internet places

Looking for love? Check out these online matchmaking sites:

- [www.jpostpersonals.com](http://www.jpostpersonals.com) The Jerusalem Post's matchmaking site enables browsing and searching through a comprehensive selection of singles.
- [www.match.com](http://www.match.com) One of the biggest and most comprehensive singles sites offers a weeklong free trial.
- [www.oneandonly.com](http://www.oneandonly.com) Browse and place an ad for free. Includes an ad workshop and an "agent of love" who will e-mail you with new ads that match your profile.
- [www.swoon.com](http://www.swoon.com) A swanky

"dating, mating and relating" site from Conde Nast publishing. Swoon includes a gossip column, compatibility tests and links to magazines. The site is free.

[www.singlejewish.com](http://www.singlejewish.com) This commercial dating site for single Jewish people allows visitors to browse profiles and photos by area code.

[www.womenbehindbars.com](http://www.womenbehindbars.com) For the truly adventurous, this commercial site posts pictures and profiles of women in prison. If you want their postal addresses, you pay. Release dates included.

(The Baltimore Sun)

## Confessions of an online flirt

"My mom would kill me if I let you get away," I typed these words to my new online buddy soon after we met. I was in Jerusalem visiting a friend. He was in Boston staying with relatives. We came upon each other in America Online's "twenty-something" chat room.

Although I was running up a long-distance bill to Tel Aviv (AOL didn't have an access number in Jerusalem), we chatted for about two hours. I was only doing what I had been instructed to do for all of my 21 years: Find (and snag) a nice Jewish boy.

We exchanged e-mail addresses and kept in touch, on and off, for three months. Finally, the big moment approached.

He had moved back to my hometown of Boston, and I was visiting. We spoke on the phone and arranged to meet at a cafe for drinks. I was more nervous than excited.

The day of the face-to-face, I was running late. I flew into the cafe where he was sitting alone nursing a beer. I introduced myself and looked into the eyes of someone I already knew so much about.

He was nice enough, but there

was no spark. We talked for 45 minutes but the conversation was flat compared to our online flirting. He was not my type. Walking to the car, he asked if he could continue to e-mail me. I answered with a lackluster "Sure." I never heard from him again.

No, he wasn't a psycho or some super-ugly guy. He didn't greet me with an ax or try to stalk me. Some would say I was lucky. He was just a typical guy looking to find a girl (who was not me). The moral of the story: Don't expect too much. Your prince is surely out there even if he's not online.

— Judith Forman

## Don't give up on me, baby

Dear Ruthie, My wife and I had a baby, Jack, who had seizures and bilateral strokes at birth. Two MRIs revealed that the strokes had shored out 70-80% of his brain.

The neurologists assured us that the damage was so profound that the prognosis was black and white, no grays; that there was no chance of Jack seeing, hearing, smelling, turning over, crawling or doing much of anything; that his inactivity would cause him to develop infections which would kill him sooner rather than later.

At the suggestion of the doctors we didn't take him home, but put him in a temporary hospital to await placement in a small permanent hospital/residence where he would get a lot of attention.

Why be martyrs, we figured, if it wouldn't make a difference in his life whether he was nurtured by us or by kindly nurses?

But six months later things haven't turned out as planned. The doctors, it seems, were wrong. Jack sees, hears, eats, listens, turns over, smiles, gurgles, engages in baby talk, and likes TV (unfortunately). It is, in fact, impossible for a

layman to distinguish between him and any other normal, nice-looking child. What's the problem? It now appears that he looks too good. The small 12-bed, long-term hospital that we were hoping would accept him has changed its mind. It's as if his MRI doesn't matter.

Maybe he looks too good for a brain-damaged six-month-old, but what will he be able to do at age five, eight or 15? We're in limbo. We want a normal family; we're trying for a baby now. We may have to bring Jack home to our one-bedroom apartment, and may have a baby several months after. My wife will have to quit her job. Also, I lost my high-paying job three months ago and am trying to start a business from home. What attention can we give to a (hopefully) normal baby when Jack may need more intensive attention as he grows older and larger?

Distressed Parents of Brain-Damaged Baby  
New York

Dear DPs, Everything you describe indicates that either the MRIs were wrong, or that the doctors' interpretation of them was wrong, or that baby Jack decided to prove all of you wrong by showing you that miracles can happen.

The real tragedy here is that you and your wife were told there was no hope for him ever to develop – or even live – which caused you, in turn, to find a hospital in which he could die as peacefully as possible. Your whole mind-set was one of preparation for this, to the extent that you decided to get on with your lives as soon as possible – including aiming for another baby, and starting a business at home.

Then, things didn't "turn out as planned." Jack not only didn't die, he began to thrive. That he no longer is welcome in the hospital originally arranged for him is actually a blessing, not a curse. The hospital recognizes that he no longer belongs in the severely brain-damaged category into which he was placed at birth. You, too, should recognize this now.

Dear Ruthie

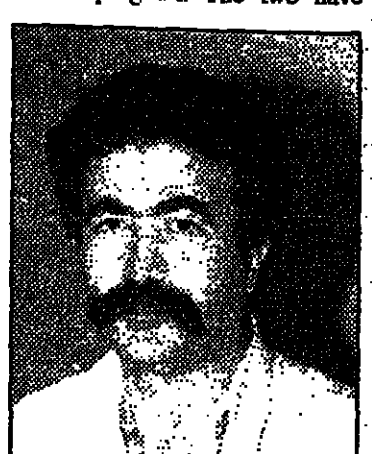


Ruthie Blum



Shimon Shetreet, left, has municipal election headaches, while Amir Peretz could field a Workers Party for the Knesset.

(Ariel Jerzolimski)



and waitresses, security personnel, receptionists and other junior hotel employees-for-a-day learned the magic of a smile and a friendly greeting. During the morning Tel Aviv Municipality tourism officials taught the youngsters about their city. They were also invited to join a special guided tour of Tel Aviv so they would be able to answer future visitors' questions.

been friends for years and 10 years ago even faced an IBA disciplinary tribunal together. Segal, 54, has a 27-year career in broadcasting and once made an unsuccessful bid to join Channel 2. Misha was in charge of Channel 2 when it was still in its experimental stage, and gave the green light to Dan Shilon, whose interview show *Dan Shilon Live* he helped develop.



Tuesday,  
August 25, 1998

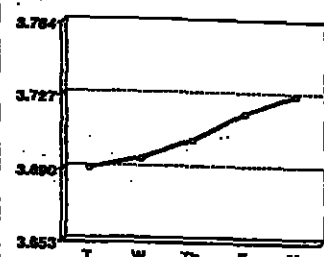
# BUSINESS & FINANCE

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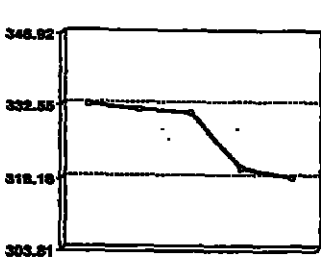
## MARKETS

in brief

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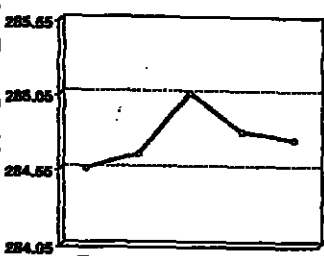


MAOF INDEX



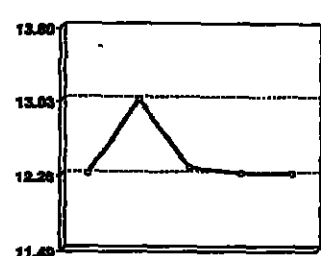
GOLD

\$ per ounce

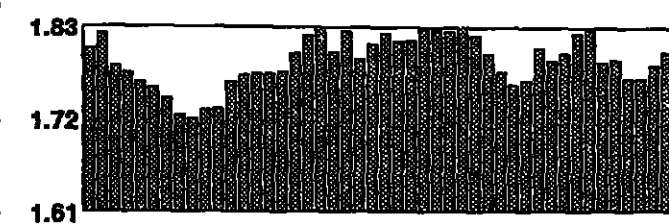


OIL

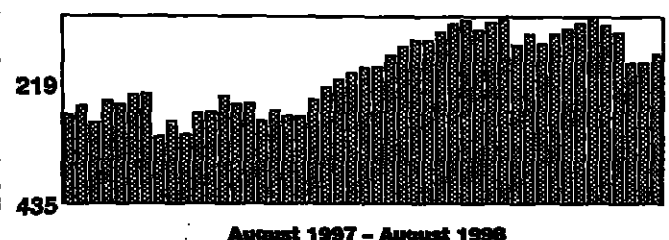
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



### Fujitsu buys R&D center here

The Japanese concern Fujitsu Ltd. has bought the Herzliya R&D facility of Texas-based ROSS Technology, which is in bankruptcy. The center, formerly Ross Semiconductors Israel, will become Fujitsu Microelectronics Israel, and is the first Japanese R&D center here, the company said yesterday. The value of the deal was not disclosed.

Fujitsu was offered Ross, but decided to only purchase the R&D center, established in 1995, since it saw the Herzliya operations as the only worthwhile part of the company.

The Herzliya center, which designed chips mostly for Sun Microsystems and Fujitsu, has 25 workers. Fujitsu, with over 500 group companies, has annual revenues of \$40 billion. It is one of the world's largest suppliers of computers and information systems.

Nina Gilbert

### Hotel stays unchanged in January-July

The number of hotel bed-nights in the first seven months of the year was 9.2 million, unchanged from the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics said.

The figure was unchanged despite the drop in the number of foreign tourist stays, by 12%, due to a 14% increase in the number of stays by Israelis.

The occupancy rate during the period was 57% compared with 61% in 1997 and 68% in 1996, due to a 5% increase in the number of hotel rooms.

Nina Gilbert

### Comstock to offer on-line trading

Jerusalem-based S & P Comstock has launched a new service aimed at allowing individual on-line trading on American markets. The company said it has formed a strategic partnership with US Investscope Inc., which will allow PC-owners to trade from their home or office.

David Zweber, local representative of the company, said that the system will allow individuals to become market makers on Nasdaq, thus saving spreads which are normally taken by brokers. He added that the system will lead to substantial savings for investors.

Jerusalem Post Staff

### Transport Ministry allows Rishon bus station to open

By NINA GILBERT

Egged's new \$20 million central bus station in Rishon LeZion opens today, after a six-month delay due to a dispute with the Transport Ministry, which demanded that other bus companies be given access to the station.

Egged petitioned the High Court of Justice against the demand, and the court asked the sides to try to reach an agreement.

The Transport Ministry then decided to allow the opening of the Rishon LeZion station, because it was under construction before the government began moves to open bus transport to competition.

A year ago, it was decided that all new bus stations must allow their use by all transport companies, according to the Transport Ministry spokesman.

In February, the licenses for operating 22 bus lines run by Egged and Dan were issued in a tender by the Transport Ministry.

The lines were to have begun operating in June, but the move was delayed by the petitions to the High Court of Justice, the spokesman said.

Under the compromise worked out for Rishon LeZion, Egged

said that besides Dan, no other bus companies would be able to use its facilities.

The Transport Ministry said this arrangement was made possible since the Rishon LeZion municipality said it would allocate nearby property for a station for use of other transporters.

As for existing stations, the Antitrust Authority may take moves to force Egged's real estate holding company, Nitsba, to allow other bus operators to use their facilities.

Egged said the station, located in the western part of the city on the North-South Route 4, will ease travel from the south to the Dan region, as travelers to Bat Yam, Holon and other nearby areas will not have to change buses in the Tel Aviv Central Bus Station.

All intercity lines have also been rerouted, with the aim of reducing the number of buses traveling through the center of town.

The station, built on ground-level, is situated on a 42-dunam plot, and includes a 1,500 square-meter passenger terminal and 6,200 sq.m. of commercial space.

It also has free parking for 500 cars. The shopping center has some 50 stores.

## Finance Ministry retracts demand for defense cut

By DAVID HARRIS

Finance Ministry senior officials yesterday agreed to allow an increase to the 1999 defense budget, despite saying last week they would insist on a cut in military expenditure, a Treasury source said yesterday.

The U-turn took place during a meeting between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and the latter's senior staff.

"There was some discussion about whether to add between NIS 500 million and NIS 1 billion shekels to the defense bud-

get, but at the same time the [Defense] Ministry will be asked to introduce efficiencies," said the source. "In the worst-case scenario, these cuts will be as high as NIS 340m."

Yesterday's meeting, the first in a series, launched a debate on the details of next year's state budget. The Defense Ministry's spending package is likely to total some NIS 34b, and Treasury officials said they believe the military can be downsized by as much as 1% without any weakening of defense capabilities.

At the same time an expenditure increase is necessary,

## 1999 Budget

according to Netanyahu, as the IDF looks to commence a multi-year upgrade program, particularly of its strategic operations, including satellite technology.

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office said the premier is concerned about two budgets in particular, those of the Defense and Religious Affairs ministries.

During the upcoming cabinet

and Knesset budget debates, the religious parties are expected to place considerable political pressure on Netanyahu to secure additional funds in 1999.

However, Netanyahu and Neeman's official line is that all ministries will be asked to implement efficiency measures, with the only areas of government spending guaranteed an increase - to the tune of some NIS 1b. - are infrastructure projects and schemes aimed at increasing economic growth.

In the coming days, Neeman will approach all cabinet members and ask them not to make

exorbitant demands on the state budget, which stands at some NIS 217b., of which NIS 173.8b. is set aside for government expenditure. The remainder is mainly used for debt repayments.

The cabinet approved these sums a fortnight ago. They also agreed the budget deficit must be no greater than 2% of the gross domestic product, or NIS 7.8b.

This means the ministers face a collective NIS 2.2b. budget cut. However, they are collectively demanding some NIS 12b. in additional spending next year.

The cabinet will next discuss the state budget on September 6.

## Frenkel leaves rate at 9.5%

By DAVID HARRIS

The Bank of Israel's key lending rate will remain at 9.5 percent in September, Gov. Jacob Frenkel announced yesterday.

The principal reason for the decision was the need for caution on the monetary front given the ongoing crises in the world's markets, lead by Asia and Russia, according to Frenkel.

The failure to alter rates was widely predicted by both government and private sector economists, who said the world's economic uncertainty, the large increase in July's M1 money supply, and the 1.5% rate cut at the start of August made it highly unlikely Frenkel would announce a further reduction. Indeed, several economists were suggesting yesterday that Frenkel was toying with the idea of increasing interest rates and that if he failed to do so for September, he would announce a hike next month.

"What's currently going on in the international markets shows us exactly how important it is to have stability," said Frenkel. "What's been proved across the globe in the last few weeks is how much we are all in one ocean, which at the moment is stormy."

A statement from the central bank pointed out that it has cut interest rates by 3.9% this year and by 7.5% since last July.

Frenkel also urged cabinet members not to vote in favor of fiscal expansion when they discuss the state budget on September 6. At a time when the financial markets are in such a state of turbulence, the government must remain true to its tight fiscal policy track, he said.

The central bank's statement also said there is a need to carefully monitor the ever-closing gap between interest rates here and abroad.

A further element in the central bank's decision was the newly-set inflation target for 1999. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman announced two weeks ago that monetary policy must take inflation toward a 4% goal at the end of December 1999. Given that this year's consumer price index is heading for such a figure, Frenkel will have to balance that requirement against the demands of exporters to continue reducing rates, said economists.

Manufacturers Association President Dan Proper expressed his disappointment at Frenkel's decision and called on him to cut rates in the months ahead.

### Hard times in Russia

A Russian woman counts her rubles outside an exchange office in Moscow. With the Russian economy facing new turmoil, President Boris Yeltsin named Viktor Chernomyrdin as acting prime minister to restore financial stability.

(Reuters)

## XTL Biopharmaceuticals raises \$10.1m.

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Rehovot-based XTL Biopharmaceuticals yesterday announced that it has completed a private placement of \$10.1 million.

Investors include investment fund Biotechvest, a subsidiary of Fruit of the Loom; US investment house Goldman Sachs, and Japanese investment bank Nomura International.

In addition, venture capital fund Medica Investments, which specializes in biotech, and London based Biotechnology Investments, which is controlled by the Rothschild family, increased their stake in the company.

XTL is a drug discovery company which operates in Kiryat Weizmann. The company

has some 30 workers and has developed technology for creating animal models of human diseases for pre-clinical validation of new therapeutic approaches.

XTL's focus is on development of human monoclonal antibodies to treat viral, autoimmune, and oncological diseases. The company, which was established in 1993, has developed models of the hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses, immunotherapy of tumors, vaccine development, and human allograft rejection.

Martin Becker, XTL's CEO, said that the money would be used for clinical trials of its therapy of hepatitis B viral infections. This therapy, which is XTL's first product, is expected to enter trials at the hospitals of Stanford University and the University of California at

San Francisco, following regulatory submission to the US Food and Drug Administration earlier this month.

Becker said that the local biotech field is suffering from difficulties in raising money because of lack of expertise in valuing biotech firms. "Among the new investors there is only one fund, Medica, which specializes in biotechnology which is Israeli," he said. "It has been frustrating and disappointing not to have additional Israeli investors."

The private placement is the third round in which the company raised money. In the past it had raised some \$16m. Other investors in the company include Neoprobe Corp. and local venture capital funds Inventech Industrial Ventures, Nitzanim, and Federman Enterprises.

## Mizrahi's first half net falls 22%

United Mizrahi Bank's net profit fell 21.6 percent in the first half of the year to NIS 89.3 million from NIS 113.9m. a year earlier, the bank announced yesterday.

The drop in profit reflects return on equity of 8.7% in annual terms, compared with 11.5% in the first six months of 1997 and 10.4% in the whole of last year.

The bank attributed the sharp decline to costs linked to changes in the calculation of interest rates on saving plans, which led to a decline of NIS 22m. in profitability.

In addition, the contribution of subsidiaries fell 35.8% to NIS 42.5m. Mizrahi said most of the change stemmed from a decrease in the profits of Bank Tefahot, which fell 29.7% to NIS 39.7m. in the first half.

During the second quarter, net profit decreased 15.8% to NIS 49.4m. from NIS 58.7m. a year earlier.

Africa-Israel Investments reported a 60% increase in net income in the second quarter to NIS 12.8m. from NIS 8m. last year. However, in the first half of the year, net income was flat, at NIS

23.1m., compared with NIS 23m. in the same period in 1997.

Revenues in the first half grew 47% to NIS 695.3m. from NIS 473m. last year. In the second quarter, revenues were up 75% to NIS 382m. from NIS 218m.

In the first half, revenues from building activities grew 30% to NIS 434.3m. from NIS 333.3m. in the first half of 1997.

In the second quarter, these revenues were up 77% to NIS 256.3m. from NIS 144.7m.

The company said that as of the end of June, there were 2,007 apartments under construction in Africa-Israel projects around the country, of which 948 were already sold.

In the first half, 393 apartments were sold, compared with 408 in the same period last year.

Revenues from rental properties rose 64% in the first half to NIS 63.9m. from NIS 39m. last year, mostly due to the opening of the Ramat Aviv Mall.

In the first half of the year the company started investing in real estate in the Czech Republic and Russia, for a total of \$18.5m

## Turkish firm wins \$75m. Ben-Gurion 2000 deal

By METEHAN DEMIR

ANKARA - Turkish firm Ceylan Insaat has won a \$75 million deal to construct a terminal building and provide terminal electric systems under the government's Ben Gurion 2000 Airport program.

Ceylan, which became the first Turkish firm to win an Israeli government's deal, will ship 5,000 precast components of different shapes and sizes that are planned to be used during the construction.

Israel has also won hundreds of millions of dollars worth of projects in Turkey, such as upgrading 54 Turkish F-4 jets under a \$632 million deal and modernizing 48 F-5s under an \$80m. agreement.

A leading official from the company said their success will be a

clear message that Turkey and Israel have entered a new era in economic ties which he hopes will be boosted even more.

### RESULTS

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## Building Blocks

By NINA GILBERT

Jerusalem is the No. 1 choice for real-estate investment in Israel among Jews from the New York area, according to a survey conducted in advance of next month's housing fair in New York City. Next most popular locations were Tel Aviv, Beit Shmesh, Modi'in, and Netanya.

The housing fair, to be held from September 12-14 at the New York Hilton, will exhibit dozens of projects being constructed throughout the country. Representatives from Israeli mortgage banks will also attend.

According to the survey of 580 couples in the New York area, who bought real estate in Israel in the past year, the most common amount of money invested ranged between \$200,000 and \$400,000, followed by up to \$200,000, and more than \$400,000.

The companies that are to take part include: Africa-Israel, Ambassador, Azorim, Mishal and Perez Builders of the Neguv. The projects include the Carmel Beach Towers in Haifa and the Hilton Queen of Sheba apartment hotel in Eilat.

## RESIDENTIAL

## Jerusalem

In San Simon on Rehov Ben-Zion, a five-room apartment was sold for \$360,000. The apartment, bought after three months on the Shalom listing service, has a 60-sq.m. porch with a view.

On Rehov Ben-Zion, a three-room, 70-sq.m. apartment was sold for \$155,000. The apartment, on the first floor, was sold after a month on the market.

In Ma'ale, the Danit Company sold a new four-and-a-half-room apartment for \$340,000. The 140-sq.m. apartment on Rehov Hananiah also has a 55-sq.m. porch with a view, a large storeroom and enclosed parking. The deal was made via Anglo-Saxon Jerusalem and Shiran.

In Kibbutz, on Rehov Aha-Helkia, a 90-sq.m. three-and-a-half-room apartment was sold for \$160,000. The apartment, in a low-cost housing complex, is on the ground floor with a garden. It was sold after six months on the Shalom multi-listing service.

A new seven-room apartment with a garden on Pisgat Ze'ev's Moshe Dayan Boulevard, was sold for \$260,000 via Century 21. The apartment, on the ground floor of a five-story building with 15 apartments, has 186 sq.m. and a 220-sq.m. garden. The agency said the buyer got a bargain price because the apartment was the last one left in the project.

## Modi'in area

In Modi'in, a three-story cottage on Rehov Halevonia was sold via Century 21 for \$239,000. The home has 150 sq.m., plus a 40-sq.m. garden and a 30-sq.m. porch on the roof. The asking price was \$245,000.

A five-room, 170-sq.m. apartment on Rehov Erez Ayalon was sold for \$175,000. The apartment is on the third floor with an elevator and has a porch and enclosed parking. The asking price was \$192,000.

On Rehov Nahal Kailov, a four-and-a-half-room duplex apartment with two porches was sold via the agency for \$500. The apartment is on the fourth floor with an elevator.

In Shoham, a five-room attached cottage on Rehov Nativ was sold for \$295,000 via Anglo-Saxon. The house has 160 sq.m. plus a 100-sq.m. garden. The asking price was \$310,000.

On Rehov Erez Ayalon, a six-room, 170-sq.m. penthouse was sold for \$285,000. The home, whose asking price was \$320,000, also has a 60-sq.m. terrace with a view.

A 125-sq.m. five-room apartment on Rehov Modi'in was sold for \$235,000, at \$10,000 less than asking price. The apartment, on the first floor, also has a 50-sq.m. porch.

## Zichron Ya'akov

Despite the real-estate slowdown, the number of deals in Zichron Ya'akov since the beginning of the year is more than in all of 1997, according to RE/MAX. Prices have dropped only by 2 percent to 5% compared with 20% decline in the west of the country. The agency said Zichron is attracting people who want to get away from the city and fulfill their dream of owning a private home, but still be close enough to commute to work.

The greatest demand has been for plots of land, with prices starting at around \$120,000 for 400 sq.m. and reaching \$300,000 for a half a dunam, depending on the view and neighborhood. Land prices have not dropped, according to the agency.

Prices of second-hand villas in the new Givat Eden area in the north are about \$270,000 for 100 sq.m. to 150 sq.m. homes. \$350,000 for 150 sq.m. to 200 sq.m. and \$450,000 for 200 sq.m. to 250 sq.m. In the Nevei Hanadiv area, near Ramat Hanadiv, prices range from \$290,000 to \$390,000. In the area of the original Kibbutz, prices are from \$240,000 to \$430,000.

## Is Clal back on course?

Fresh from a successful stint at Bezeq, Clal Israel's new CEO is faced with the daunting task of steering the conservative and stagnated giant toward a more profitable future

By DAN GERSTENFELD

When you're driving a car and you miss a turn, you can always make a U-turn and go back. But when you are at the helm of a gigantic vessel, it is more difficult to turn around," said Yitzhak Kaul, CEO and president of Clal Israel.

Kaul is referring to the challenging task of changing the image of the conservative holding company. Although analysts are not convinced that Clal is already back on track, the optimistic CEO believes that all the necessary steps have been taken and that the company is ready to look to the future.

"It's been only a year, and the company looks completely different," said Kaul. "In this year, Clal went through a quiet revolution. It is now prepared to meet the challenges of the coming years."

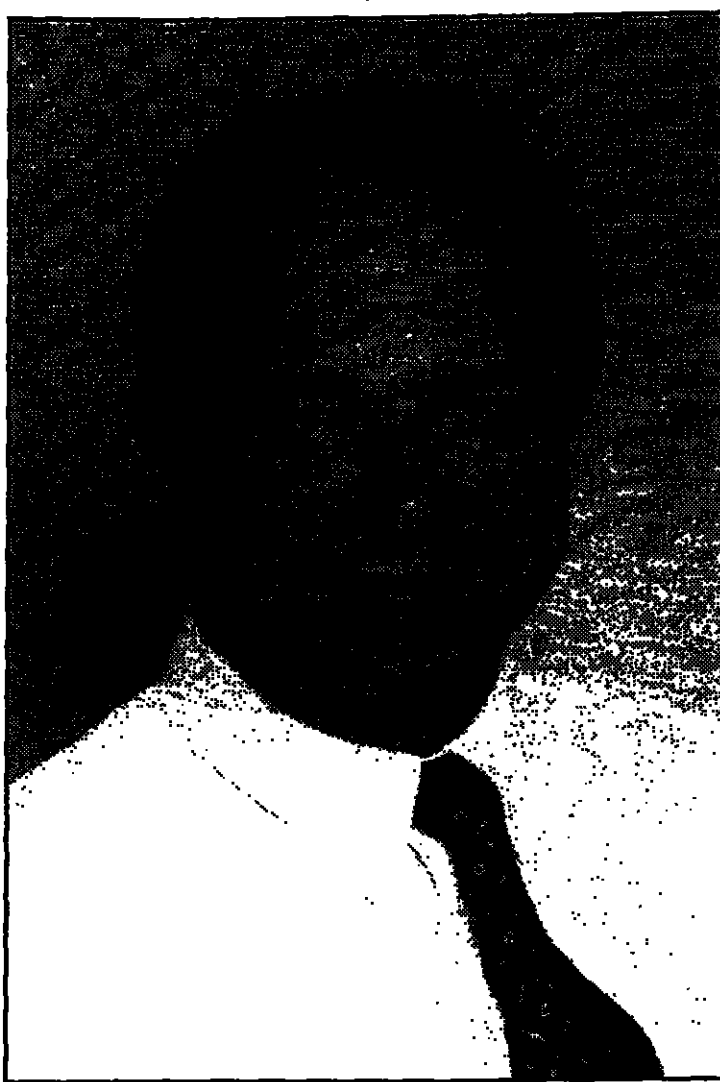
Despite the fact that the former director-general of Bezeq Israel Telecom believes Clal is ready to enter the new millennium, he realizes that changing the profile of Israel's second largest holding company can only be done gradually as not to create too many tremors.

He describes his first year in Clal as fascinating, saying the transition from government-controlled Bezeq to the private sector went very smoothly. "If we examine the last year, we see we've made a serious transformation. It starts from the company's attitude, its character and the main issues on which it focuses. We have also changed the strategy and the business plan."

After successfully restructuring the inefficient Postal Service and Bezeq, the phone monopoly, Kaul believes that he can achieve similar results with Clal. As a top manager reputed for being a master of organizational management, he often uses terms such as "changing the culture of the organization" and "adopting new management tools."

Critics remain skeptical, however, saying that introducing structural changes might not be enough to heal the wounded conglomerate, which has suffered from decreasing profitability over the years.

ONE of the most drastic measures taken by Clal was separating the management of its industrial arm, Clal Industries and Investments, from the rest of the concern, giving its CEO Rimon Ben-Shaul full



Kaul: 'Clal went through a quiet revolution. It is now prepared to meet the challenges of the coming years.' (Tamar Mizpe)

independence. This led to a series of radical changes for Clal's industries, including selling several subsidiaries and investing in high-tech companies for short-term profits.

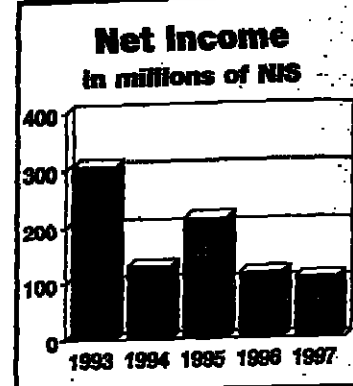
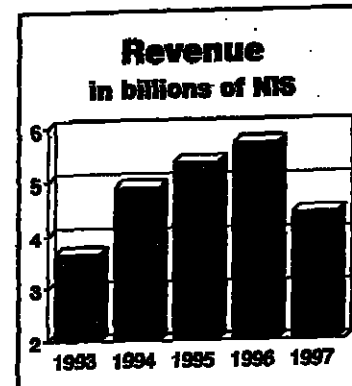
The other subsidiaries of Clal saw a much more moderate change. Kaul, who decided that the company should focus on the fields in which it has a relative advantage, such as insurance and real estate, intends to reduce the holdings in companies which don't belong to its core business.

The most significant change in this direction was taken earlier this year when the company sold its holdings in Clal Trading to businessman Gad Ze'evi for \$70 million. "This group, which included 40 companies, was our most problematic holding," said Kaul. "We started selling companies off one by one, but when we realized that this process would continue for too long, we decided to sell it as one unit."

UNDER the new strategic plan, Clal intends to focus on a limited number of areas, including insurance, through subsidiary Clal Insurance Enterprises Holdings; construction, through Azorim Investment and Construction, which has been merged with Housing and Development for Israel (SHOP); and investment banking, mainly through Ilanot Bank.

In addition to these well established groups, Clal has formed two new groups which will focus on infrastructure and information technology. According to the plan, the infrastructure group, which includes the activity of Clal Tourism, will focus on infrastructure, water, environment and transportation.

Kaul seems to believe that these fields will reap Clal the greatest rewards. "I am a big believer in the environment. There are talks about the privatization of compa-



nies in the fields of water, transportation, sewage, waste, recycling and hazardous materials," he said. "Clal will strongly compete on such tenders."

THE second new group focuses on information technology. Clal has already entered the field by buying a franchise together with Gilat Satellite Networks which supplies telephone services by satellite to rural areas in Peru and Chile. An investment has also been made in Commenet, which provides commercial services through the Internet. In addition, Clal is in the process of forming Eden, a new company which will locate stolen cars. According to Kaul, Clal is also considering embarking on the DBS (digital broadcasting system) field.

"The concern is based on mature companies such as Clal Insurance and Azorim, young companies such as Ilanot Bank and Clal Tourism, and new groups in the fields of infrastructure and information technology," said Kaul, who points to the fact that the company has reduced its headquarters staff from 125 employees to only 40.

"Introducing changes in an organization with turnover of \$2 billion is not easy. There are various limitations to the changes which can be done."

Under the new strategic plan, Clal intends to conduct 20 percent of its activities abroad. The conglomerate has also declared that it intends to invest \$1b. in developing its business over the next five years.

So far, the expansion abroad was relatively limited. It includes an investment in a hotel in Cyprus and an investment of \$50 million in a real-estate project in Poland. Earlier this year, the company invested some \$20m. in a real-estate project in Prague and last month signed an agreement with a Hungarian company to make joint investments in the property market there.

According to Kaul, Clal was forced to start expanding abroad due to regulatory restrictions, mainly by the Anti-trust Authority, which limited Clal's activity in the local market.

As part of the new strategic plan, the company's board of directors approved increasing its leverage ratio to 35 percent of its assets from the current 21%-25%, and changed its dividend policy so that it will start to distribute an annual dividend of at least 25% of its net income and no less than 50% of the dividend given by its subsidiaries.

DESPITE the fact that the company has declared sweeping changes, analysts remain unimpressed. "I don't yet see a real difference," said Avital Bar-Dayan, an analyst at Ofek Securities and Investments. "The company has undergone some personnel changes, but where are all the new investments?"

She added that until now, the majority of the alterations have yet to be implemented. "It will take some time until we see a real change."

Another analyst, who requested anonymity, said he reported on Clal in the past, but doesn't anymore because the company remains closed to investors and refuses to share information with analysts. "The old mentality didn't change yet," he said. "It's very difficult to analyze a company that is not open to investors."

This conservative attitude may explain the scant analyst coverage of the company, which is currently limited to three local investment institutions.

The analyst also added that Kaul inherited quite a few companies which are operating in an unfavorable environment. "The real estate market is in trouble, the insurance field is worse and the industrial field is also problematic," he said. "This is only the beginning. We need to give Kaul some more time."

## Playing the name game

Strong retailers such as the Gap, Ralph Lauren and Disney have succeed by searing their brands into memory, then putting them on as many products and outlets as possible

By LORRAINE MIRABELLA

Ralph Lauren has spread his name and an image of classic elegance from blazers to club chairs to suede-textured paint. Johnnie Walker will debut as a men's sportswear line this fall after 178 years as a Scotch whiskey brand. And billionaire tycoon Richard Branson has built an empire convincing consumers to trust upstart ventures with the Virgin label - to fly his airline, shop his record store, try his brand of cola.

All are masters of branding, a '90s buzzword that has emerged as possibly the decade's hottest marketing phenomenon. Building a brand and successfully extending it has become as much a matter of survival as sales tool. The idea is this: Equate the brand with a value or promise of an experience (for instance, Disney equals family entertainment), sear the brand into memory, then put it on as many products and outlets as possible.

When it works, consumers splash on Lauren fragrance, wake up in Lauren sheets and do their living rooms in Lauren country. A leveraged brand can pay off big in sales and profits.

"There are cheaper jeans than at the Gap, but what's ingrained is (that) the look is right," says Howard Davidowitz, chairman of Davidowitz & Associates Inc., a national retail consulting firm in New York. "I want to look like a Gap person. I can't make a mistake. I bought it at The Gap. That's what a brand does. That's why branding is so important." Branding has been around longer than Coke and Pepsi and Tide and Ajax. Disney, considered by many the Lion King of the brand extenders, has spent decades sprinkling its brand of fairy dust into television, movies, retail, theme parks, music. Branson, creator of Virgin Records, Virgin Atlantic Airways, Virgin Megastore and Virgin Cola, told the BBC last month that when he

named his record company in 1969, "I had some idea of the name being catchy, and applying to lots of other products for young people." Today, thanks in part to huge growth of the Internet and cable TV, a dizzying array of products and entertainment options vies for consumer dollars.

"We have to fight for our share of people's attention," says Greg Moyer, chief creative officer of Discovery Communications. "If you live on one brand in one medium, if you're only a television channel or only a store, you run the risk you'll be marginalized." After 13 years on cable TV as The Discovery Channel, the company is extending its brand of "real-world" story telling to other formats.

The first Discovery Channel Store opened in Washington in March; another opens in Maryland next year. Also in the works: science-oriented feature films for IMAX theaters and traveling museum exhibits.

"We're competing not just with other television channels for people's leisure time and attention, but with the time people spend in malls, with their families, traveling or pursuing continuing education," Moyer says. "Every day I am increasingly convinced that we need to be out in the world in people's communities with a physical, experiential demonstration of what our brand is about."

When retailers send out mixed signals about what they stand for,

they often struggle (The Limited) or go out of business (Merry Go Round), says retail consultant Davidowitz. Successful branding campaigns, he says, such as at The Gap, put "a tremendous focus on developing a brand that the customer would trust, would love." If Michael Jordan is a phenomenal athlete, the thinking goes, his athletic shoes, apparel

vice president of member services for Washington-based National Retail Federation. "You like our clothes, you'll love our breads."

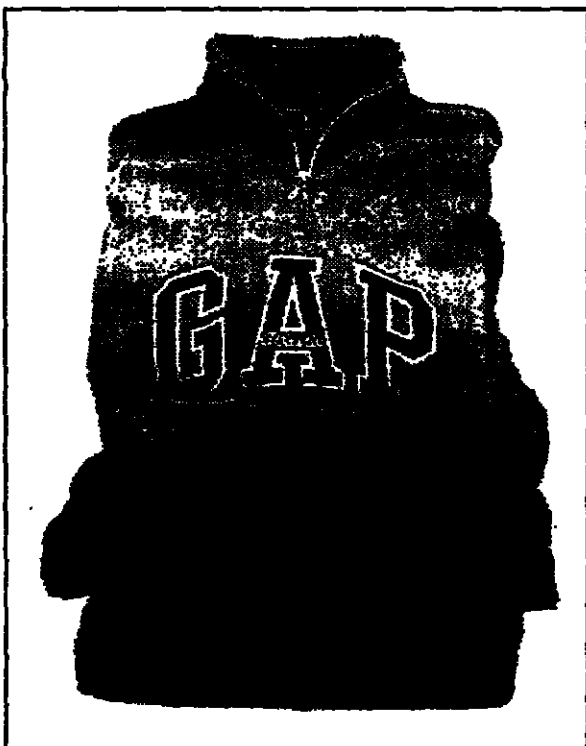
ESPN, the cable television sports network, has extended its reach by branding itself as a "sports fan" that's on the scene wherever other sports fans gather, says Judy Fearing, senior vice president of marketing for ESPN. With that vision, the network branched into radio, the Internet, magazines, the ESPN Zone interactive sports bar and restaurant, and next, its own brand of video sports games.

"Strong brands with deep bonds and relationships with consumers are going to be the ones that will survive," Fearing says. "If you're not relevant and important to a consumer, they will quickly find a replacement for you."

Brands can cross traditional boundaries in part because of the blurring of once rigid lines between manufacturers, retailers and entertainment companies.

Starbucks started small in Seattle, grew into a ubiquitous chain and recently made the transition to manufacturing, packaging coffee for sale in grocery stores.

Nike, on the other hand, crossed the line in a big way from sports-shoe manufacturer to retailer with the opening in 1990 of the first of 13 Niketown stores. Stores at 30,000 square feet or larger draw tourists with interactive exhibits and funky architecture - an interior replicating a 1930s gym in Manhattan, a display of skier



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and even cologne must be pretty good, too.

Others who have spun a famous name into successful new products include Calvin Klein and Liz Claiborne, joining Lauren in bedding, towels and window treatments.

"It's something people can identify with," says Bruce VanKleeck,

Picabo Street's scarf in Las Vegas, screens showing inspirational films of amateur athletes. Nike insists the stores serve a larger purpose, showcasing the breadth of the product in a way that defines the brand.

"The fact that people spend 45 minutes in the store, you can't put a price on this type of advertising," says Stefanie Carlson, marketing director for US Nike Retail. "It's definitely increased demand for the product."

But what does all the cross-diversification and brand extending mean for the consumer? "It's a bonanza. It means increased choice, and I think it also means an increased expectation of performance," says Tom Collinger, an associate professor and director of direct marketing department at Northwestern University. "If they like the brand but don't like the way it is sold to them, they will go to someone else. It challenges anyone in the business to be better on all levels."

But it can backfire, too. Failed brand extensions can hurt the reputation of the main brand. Too many extensions can confuse customers or dilute the strength of the original brand.

Before leveraging a brand, a company must clearly define it, make sure the consumer understands what it stands for and have a tacit agreement with customers about what the brand can and can't do, says Tom Preston, chief executive officer of MTV Networks.

Following those rules, MTV has rejected the MTV refrigerator, the MTV Rock and the MTV restaurant. "We do not have permission to delve in hamburgers," Preston said in a speech on branding this summer in which he listed brand-extension flops: Heinz tomato soup, which consumers thought would taste too ketchupy, and Coca Cola apparel.

Whether or not consumers accept Harley Davidson furniture, he said, remains to be seen. (The Baltimore Sun)

## THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

By GRIER FAY CASHMAN

**1.9** The annual general meeting of Sano stockholders will be held at the company's registered premises on the 13th floor of the Migdal Building, 3 Daniel Frisch Street, Tel Aviv. Shareholders will be asked to accept reports, authorize the new board of directors and determine their salaries.

**2.9** Marketing to Children is Not a Game, just how serious a business it is will emerge at a study afternoon sponsored by the Israel Management Center in conjunction with the Executive Marketing Club. The event is being held at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv. Subjects on the agenda include: "Innovations in appeal to children and revolutions in sales techniques"; "Advertising is not a kids' game"; "New brand names in consumer items for children"; and "Marketing to and with children."

**6.9** The fourth Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs will bring together some 100 experts in the field from Israel and 19 other countries. The conference is being organized by Meir Bialer, a David Eisenberg professor of pharmacy at the Hebrew University School of Pharmacy.

**10.9** A week-long International Tourist Promotion Marketing Conference, co-sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, El Al, the Go Galilee Tourist Forum, the Tourism Department of the Jerusalem Municipality, the Tel Aviv Hotel Association, the Tourism Association of Tel Aviv/Jaffa and the Tiberias Hotel Association, will open in Tel Aviv and continue through different parts of the country. It will culminate in a tourist trade fair at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

**13.9** Smart Card Business Initiatives in Israel and Abroad will be

discussed at an Israel Management Center study afternoon at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv. Keynote speaker will be Jerome Aidenbaum, smart cards product manager for Bull, Worldwide Information Systems. Other speakers will focus on various aspects of electronic engineering with regard to smart-card production, use and security in Israel and in New York.

**15.9** The annual general meeting of Osem Investments will be held at 10 a.m. at the company's registered offices, 61 Jabotinsky Street, Petah Tikva. Attending stockholders will be asked inter alia to approve a 1997 third-quarter dividend of NIS 16 million. The total dividend for 1997 will be NIS 48m.

The annual general meeting will be followed by an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders, which is convening to approve company General Manager Dan Propper's NIS 1.32m. bonus for the year ending December 1997. Propper has controlling interest in the company through the voting rights of Nestle S.A., which owns 47% of the company's stock.

**7.12** Will the 20th anniversary of the Camp David Accords give renewed impetus to the Middle East peace process? Some of the players who stood center stage at that time will gather at the Herzog Center at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for a historic conference which will examine what led to the agreement, the consequences of its enactment and whether it was a catalyst for other peace initiatives. Among those who have indicated their attendance are Cyrus Vance, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Mustapha Khalil, President Ezer Weizman, Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein, former ambassadors to the US Meir Rosenne and Simcha Dinitz, and former cabinet secretary Arye Naor.



.....	128,563	+0.6875
Corp .....	26,3125	+0.0625
Tool .....	58,5625	+1.375
.....	9.6875	-0.0625
Comm Bank .....	13,375	+0.1875
Gold Fund .....	42.5	-0.6875
Steel .....	24.5	+0.5
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graph	-1.875	0	-0.0625
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lay & P	4.15	-0.125	-0.125
tsbook	-20.375	-0.125	-0.125
tsbook	-20.625	-0.125	-0.125
tsbook	64.5	-0.25	-0.25
son Pat	56.875	-0.25	-0.25
son J	76.625	-0.25	-0.25
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Western Union	53.675	+0.375
Northern Telecom	53.675	+0.4375
Novell	27.1875	+0.375
North State Pwr	68.6875	-0.125
Northrop	32.1875	+0.125
Orwest Corp	0.5625	-0.0625
Sci	21.9375	+0.125
Occidental Pet	25.4375	-0.1125

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Oil Casualty	99	11.125	-0.75
Oil Casualty	100	11.125	-0.75







## Specter of failure haunts PSV, Metz

LONDON (Reuters) - PSV Eindhoven and Metz could become the first major casualties of the European Cup tomorrow.

Although second qualifying round losers are guaranteed UEFA Cup action, a place in the lucrative 16-team Champions' League is the first priority.

While Manchester United, Inter Milan, Benfica and Bayern Munich all hold comfortable cushions entering the second leg, the Dutch and French representatives trail light-weight opponents.

Betor Jerusalem host Benfica of Portugal tomorrow. Odds are slim that the home side can overcome the 6-0 drubbing two weeks ago in Lisbon.

Benfica will miss the services of English striker Brian Deane, who injured his thigh in the Portuguese championship opener against Estrela Amadora.

Scottish coach Graeme Souness is expected to line up Nuno Gomes as a replacement.

Metz appear to be in big trouble, 1-0 down to HJK Helsinki after the away leg. On paper the

### European Cup preview

French side look more than capable of turning the tie around but they have not scored in their four matches so far this season.

The French league runners-up are still weakened by injuries with striker Bruno Rodriguez ruled out. Yugoslav Vladan Lukic, Metz's only other senior striker qualified to play in Europe, hurt his thigh in training on Sunday but should play.

Metz slumped 3-0 to Bastia in the French league at the weekend and playmaker Frederic Meyrieu said: "We probably had our minds on Helsinki. I think in a way we've hit the bottom - now we can only go up."

Dutch runners-up PSV crashed 2-1 to tiny Lithuanian side Kededa in the away leg contest. They too are struck by injuries and looked equally unimpressive in domestic action, drawing 1-1 at newly-promoted Cambuur Leeuwarden.

Athletic Bilbao are bidding to overturn a 2-1

deficit against Dinamo Tbilisi and will be boosted by the return of Spanish internationals Julen Guerrero and Joseba Exteberria.

Both players came through last week's friendly victory over Roma unscathed, leaving defender Roberto Rios as the only injury doubt for the Basque side.

The defeat in Tbilisi left Athletic needing a single goal to qualify - but striker Santiago Ezquerro warned the fans not to expect all-out attack from the start.

"We need to be patient on Wednesday because if the goal doesn't arrive straight away, it'll come later."

Bayern Munich hold a comfortable 4-0 lead heading to Yugoslavia's Obilic Belgrade.

Inter Milan carry a 4-0 advantage to Larvia's Skonto Riga while Premier League runners-up Manchester United lead LKS Lodz 2-0.

Despite an unremarkable start to their Premier League campaign which has seen them draw twice, Manchester United's 2-0 first leg lead should prove adequate in Poland to go through.

## Great Britain athletics still in the running



**MAKING HIS MARK** - Great Britain's Mark Richardson celebrates after crossing the finish line in the men's 4x400 meter relay at the recently completed European Athletics Championship in Budapest.

LONDON (Reuters) - British athletics, which has spent the last year in crisis, was basking in historic European championship form yesterday but is still looking for two key ingredients for future success - cash and distance runners.

The country produced its best performance in the history of the championships which finished on Sunday, by finishing at the top of the medals' table with nine golds which included some superb performances in the men's sprint events.

But the sport, whose national federation went bankrupt last October, is still looking for a major company to help secure its financial future.

"It's a wonderful morning. Athletics is the most successful sport in Britain," said former Olympic hurdler Alan Pascoe whose firm Fast Track is running the commercial side of the sport.

"The sport must continue to develop in depth. I am sure the sport is now in safe hands. But we need the support of finance through a major corporation."

Former world record holder David Moorcroft, who now runs athletics in Britain, added: "We have had a very bad year in the administration of athletics. I hope we have now turned the corner."

Britain's success at the Budapest championships was especially striking in the men's sprint events with Darren Campbell, Dougie Walker and Iwan Thomas winning the 100, 200 and 400 respectively.

But top-class performances were lacking in the middle distance and distance events where the country used to rule the world in the 1980s

with former Olympic champions like Seb Coe and Steve Ovett.

"This is European level and we did not have people who performed well in the distance events," former European 400 metres champion Roger Black said. "This is a problem that needs to be addressed."

Former Olympic sprint champion Linford Christie said he believed that it's more a question of attitude.

Britain's distance runners needed to believe in themselves like he did when he adopted American training techniques and took on the US's big names in the 100 metres to win Olympic and world titles in the early 1990s.

"I think it is attitude," he said. "We used to think the same about the Americans in sprints. It only takes one person."

The Budapest performances were badly needed by the administrators of the sport in Britain.

Athletics has struggled in the last few years to get the same high profile in the media that it enjoyed in the 1980s.

Coe, now a senior political figure in Britain's opposition Conservative party, believes the athletes who emerged in Budapest could perform at the highest level with next year's world championships and the 2000 Sydney Olympics looming on the horizon.

## Solskjaer to stay at Manchester Utd

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Manchester United striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer no longer wants to move to London.

The Norwegian looked set to travel south after United accepted an estimated £5.5 million bid from Tottenham Hotspur.

He had been pushed down the pecking order at Old Trafford following last week's club record purchase of Dwight Yorke for £12.6m.

But manager Alex Ferguson said Solskjaer has rejected the chance of regular first team football at Tottenham and elected to stay and battle for a place in United's starting line-up.

Ferguson was quoted as saying by the Manchester Evening News yesterday: "The boy doesn't want to go and I am happy with that. I don't want him to leave either."

Solskjaer is believed to have changed his mind because he wants to stay close to where his girlfriend is attending university.

The breakdown in talks could tempt Everton boss Walter Smith to make a second inquiry for the striker, who missed a large part of last season through injury.

Smith has already asked his old friend Ferguson about Solskjaer's availability but was told at the time he was not for sale.

## European clubs push ahead with Super League

LONDON (Reuters) - Europe's top clubs pressed ahead with their Super League plans yesterday.

Milan-based company Media Partners, involved in talks with major sides about setting up a European league, briefed clubs on its meeting last week with UEFA.

It gave no further details of the discussions but a source close to the talks added: "The project is moving ahead with enthusiasm and great momentum. The mood at the meeting was very positive."

A UEFA spokesman insisted on Sunday that Europe's governing body had no plans to work with Media Partners on the league. He said it was not true that UEFA had agreed to review its plans.

But the source called this comment "bizarre." Officials closer to the talks had a different view, he said, claiming UEFA was taking two different views in private and in public.

The Super League is expected to be top of the agenda when UEFA's executive board meets in Monaco next weekend. Some observers see the next seven days as the most important week in its history.

A European league seems inevitable in the near future. The main questions now seem to be who will run it and what will happen to the present three competitions - the European Cup, UEFA Cup and the European Cup Winners' Cup.

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## Are you being served?

### Mark McGwire defends use of over-the-counter muscle drug

MARK McGwire has often amazed friends and teammates with his discipline regarding diet and training. He begins his six-day-a-week weightlifting sessions about two weeks after every regular season ends and continues until the last pitch of the next season is thrown.

Diet? McGwire has never even eaten a Big Mac.

"He has great work habits - great health habits," said St. Louis Cardinals trainer Barry Weinberg, who has known McGwire for 15 years.

Now, McGwire is being forced to defend one aspect of his training - the use of androstenedione, an over-the-counter testosterone-producing supplement banned by the International Olympic Committee, the NFL and the NCAA.

Since the substance is sold over the counter and not banned by Major League Baseball, McGwire has not attempted to hide his use of the product for the past year. McGwire also uses the muscle-builder creatine, an amino acid powder.

"I don't worry about it because it's legal stuff, sold over the counter," McGwire said. "Anybody can get it in there and buy it. There's absolutely nothing wrong with it. There are many substances that can be dangerous if you abuse them. It's a matter of knowing what you're doing. ... I just think this is really unfair, for me to have to defend using something that is perfectly legal and allowed by major-league baseball."

McGwire sought out Weinberg and asked him to prepare literature on androstenedione for reporters covering his home-run chase. He's upset at reports that connect his use of the supplement with his pursuit of baseball's single-season home-run record.

Several sports medicine specialists agree androstenedione could not help McGwire swing the bat or hit home runs. Those skills simply are too specialized. However, McGwire says "andro" helps him recover from

his weightlifting sessions and it probably has helped him stay healthy for an entire season. McGwire is closing in on playing 150 games in back-to-back seasons for the first time since 1990-91 when he was with Oakland. Back and foot injuries bothered him for long stretches of several recent seasons.

Weinberg stresses McGwire is reasonable in his approach to training and diet. He said many fans would be surprised to know that McGwire's workouts do not involve heavy lifting, but many repetitions of relatively light weights. Likewise, Weinberg said McGwire is careful in his use of andro and creatine.

McGwire said he has had an endorsement deal with one food supplement company for several years. "They're not going to give me anything that's bad for me," he said.

Androstenedione is sold as a nutritional supplement and found naturally in meats. The Food and Drug Administration classifies androstenedione as a dietary supplement.

The IOC banned androstenedione last year, and American gold medalist shot-putter Randy Barnes was recently suspended by track and field's international governing body after testing positive; he faces a lifetime ban.

When reporters first approached McGwire about his use of androstenedione, he laughed. Told it was banned by the IOC and NFL, McGwire reminded reporters the IOC also bans the cold medicine Sudafed but not marijuana. He pointed out that NFL teams ban androstenedione, but not pain-killing injections designed to get players back on the field before injuries heal.

The IOC banned androstenedione after determining that it gives users an unfair advantage in competition. It purportedly speeds lean muscle mass and promotes recovery from injuries. There's been little research on its specific effects.

(The Washington Post)



PREPPING FOR US OPEN - Alex Corretja cools off Andre Agassi in the finals of the RCA Championship Sunday.

(Reuters)

## Corretja rallies to defeat Agassi for RCA Championship

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Alex Corretja heads to the US Open with renewed confidence, having overcome a scary moment to record his first ATP championship in the United States.

"I didn't know where I was. I didn't know if I was in Indianapolis or Barcelona (his hometown) or wherever," said Corretja, who was knocked to the court by a forehand smash by Andre Agassi in the second set of the title match Sunday.

Having been badly outplayed in the opening set, Corretja improved significantly after the point and then saved four break points in a crucial third game of the final set for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory.

"I never came to the Open with a win on hardcourts, and that gives me a lot of confidence," said Corretja, who will move into the Top 10 of the world rankings with the victory.

It was the third championship this year for Corretja, who was seeded sixth in the tournament. It was worth \$122,500 to the 24-year-old Spaniard.

"I feel in really good physical condition and mentally, and I think it's not going to be easy to beat me there," said Corretja, who is 40-13 in matches this year, with a 17-5 mark on hardcourts.

"I have a week off now to go to Long Island ... try to play some golf ... and just have some rest, which is important for the Open, to save energy."

The victory cooled the hot summer streak of Agassi, the winningest player on the ATP Tour this year, who is 50-12 with the loss. He won 19 of his previous 21 matches since falling to Germany's Tommy Haas at Wimbledon.

Despite the loss, Agassi feels confident heading into the Open.

"I feel good about my preparation," he said. "I have to just be smart this week and do the right thing. I have no complaints of where my game is."

The US Open begins August 31.

Agassi, a four-time champion this year, defeated Corretja the previous four times they played. He appeared to be on his way to another triumph when he knocked Corretja down in the sixth game of the second set.

Agassi immediately jumped over the net to check on his opponent, who got up after a moment and resumed the match. "It's always a scary moment. He was close to the net and just happened to be where I hit the ball," Agassi said.

### Kucera beats Ivanisevic for Pilot Pen title

Karol Kucera's 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 victory Sunday in the final of the Pilot Pen International was his fourth singles title and his first win in the United States.

The match was a study in contrasts: the steady, unflappable Kucera against the emotional and unpredictable Ivanisevic. After a few close calls went against him, the volatile Croat tossed his racket and ripped his shirt.

It also pitted the tour's top server against the top returner. Coming into the tournament, Ivanisevic had 666 aces in 44 matches. Kucera had a 36% return rate in 50 matches. Kucera broke Ivanisevic four times, including the fifth game of the second set when an apparent Ivanisevic ace was overruled, making it 0-40. Ivanisevic won the next two points, but double-faulted for the game, and Kucera took a pivotal 3-2 lead.

He served out for the match, winning it when Ivanisevic sent his return long.

"It's always very tough," Kucera said. "He was serving very, very well today. I am very happy with the way I played today. I hope I'm going to play this well in the US Open."

Ivanisevic had 15 aces to Kucera's eight,

but not much else in his arsenal. His usually stinging backhand had little bite or predictability.

The 24-year-old Slovakian kept Ivanisevic on the move throughout the match with his offspeed groundstrokes, and fatigue became a factor.

Ivanisevic was strongly critical of the chair umpire and linesmen. A serve he thought was an ace was ruled wide in the ninth game, bringing him to the net. After having a few words with the umpire, he stared down a line judge.

"Instead of 15-40, it's love-30. It happened twice and it's a big difference. A couple of bad calls cost me the match," Ivanisevic said.

With Kucera serving and up 5-4 in the first set, Ivanisevic battled back from 15-40 to deuce when he missed an easy winner. He ripped a large hole in his shirt and had to play the next two points before he could make a change, losing the game and the set.

A tattoo of a rose, shark and cross on his back that was evident during a shirt change sums up his personality, he said.

"Cross is cross ... I have a rose, which means love. And a shark is pretty mean, so altogether, it is me," Ivanisevic said.

### It happened on August 25

1888 - Henry Stroom becomes the first man to win the US Lawn Tennis Association singles title besides Richard Sears.  
1904 - Jim Jeffries knocks out Jack Munroe in the second round in San Francisco to retain the world heavyweight title.  
1922 - In one of the wildest games ever played, the Cubs beat the Phillies 26-23. The Cubs led 25-6 in the fourth inning, but held on as the game ended with the Phillies leaving the bases loaded.  
1948 - Ben Hogan wins the PGA Championship with a 6 and 4 win over Ed Oliver.  
1950 - Sugar Ray Robinson knocks out Jose Basora at 52 seconds of the first round to win the world middleweight title.  
1991 - Carl Lewis claims his title of world's fastest human by setting a world record of 9.86 seconds in the 100-meter final in the world championships in Tokyo.

## BASEBALL

Continued from Page 20

Trailing by two runs, the Mets loaded the bases with no outs against Gregg Olson on singles by Brian McRae and pinch-hitter Lenny Harris and a bunt single by Luis Lopez.

But Olson struck out pinch-hitter Matt Franco, got pinch-hitter Carlos Baerga on an RBI grounder and retired Tony Phillips on a game-ending groundout. Olson got his 22nd save.

Al Leiter (12-5), who has the second-lowest ERA in the majors at 2.36, lost for only the second time in 11 decisions since May 17.

Giants 10, Marlins 5  
Barry Bonds homered to become the first player to hit 400 home runs and steal 400 bases.

Bonds reached the unprecedented milestone in the top of the second inning with his 26th homer of the year against Kirt Ojala. It gave Bonds 400 in a 13-year career to go with 438 steals.

Three other players hit 300 homers and stole 300 bases - Willie Mays (660 homers, 338 stolen bases), Andre Dawson (436 and 314) and Bonds' father, Bobby (332 and 461).

Bill Mueller and Charlie Hayes also homered off Ojala (1-3).

Rockies 5, Phillies 2  
Mike Lansing hit a three-run homer and John Thomson won his third consecutive decision for visiting Colorado.

Thomson (8-8) allowed nine hits and two runs in seven innings.

Chuck McElroy pitched the eighth and Jerry Dipoto finished for his 16th save.

Mike Grace (4-7) took the loss. Braves 12, Dodgers 7

Greg Maddux became the NL's first 17-game winner despite one of the worst starts of his career as Atlanta won at home.

Andres Galaraga hit his 40th homer in his first at-bat since being ejected Saturday for charging the mound as the Braves came up with enough runs to give Maddux (17-6) the shakiest of wins.

The four-time Cy Young Award winner, coming off his 200th win

and leading the majors with a 1.65 ERA, was pounded for 10 hits and seven earned runs but managed to hang on until the fifth because Dodgers starter Carlos Perez was even worse.

In an NL game reported in yesterday's edition:

Reds 10, Expos 0

Sean Casey hit a three-run homer and drove in five runs and Jason Bere pitched seven shutout innings for visiting Cincinnati.

Montreal has lost four straight and 11 of 13.

Barry Larkin scored runs and was driven in by Casey the first three times he reached base.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Red Sox 5, Twins 1

Pedro Martinez pitched six shutout innings and Darren Bragg matched a career-high with four

hits as Boston pitched a road win.

Martinez (17-4) allowed four hits, struck out three and walked one. He did not allow an extra-base hit after Otis Nixon led off the game with a double.

John Valentin had three hits, including his 16th homer and scored three runs for Boston, which leads Baltimore by eight games in the AL wild-card race.

Mo Vaughn and Mike Stanley also had three hits each for the Red Sox.

The game featured the second matchup in 11 days between Martinez, the 1997 NL Cy Young winner, and Brad Radke (10-12), a 20-game winner in 1997.

Indians 4, Orioles 1

Dwight Gooden won his third straight decision and Travis Fryman drove in two runs, leading

Cleveland to a road win.

Gooden (6-6) is 3-0 in his last five starts and has not lost since July 26. He allowed four hits and an unearned run in 6½ innings to reach 500 for the first time since he was 3-3 at the All-Star break.

Cleveland won two of three from the Orioles during the week-end. Baltimore has dropped three of four, but still has baseball's best record since the break at 31-11.

Mariners 3, White Sox 2

Ken Griffey Jr. hit his AL-leading 43rd home run, ending his drought at 32 at-bats, and Seattle won at home.

Griffey's two-run shot off John Snyder (4-2) tied the game at 2 in the fourth inning.

Rookie Shane Monahan's home run in the fifth inning sent Chicago to its season-high fifth

straight loss.

Paul Spoljaric (4-2) won for the first time in three starts this season. Jose Paniagua worked the ninth for his first major league save.

Tigers 5, Athletics 4

Seth Greisinger survived two home runs by Oakland's Jason Giambi and Detroit held on to a home win.

The Tigers won for the first time in six games and ended Oakland's season-high, six-game winning streak.

Greisinger (3-7) gave up four runs and six hits in six innings.

Todd Jones pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for his 22nd save.

Angels 3, Blue Jays 2

Randy Velarde hit a go-ahead

two-run triple and Chuck Finley won for just the second time in 13 home starts, leading Anaheim to a home win.

Toronto first baseman Carlos Delgado's throwing error in the seventh helped rally the Angels, who concluded a 5-2 homestand and stretched their AL West lead to three games over Texas.

The Rangers played Sunday night.

Finley (10-6) gave up six hits, walked one and struck out seven in 7½ innings.

Carlos Almanzar (1-1) took the loss.

Rangers 12, Yankees 10

Rusty Greer homered and knocked in four runs as host Texas used a pair of big innings to outslug New York.

The Yankees (94-33) are trying to become the first team to win

100 games before September.

With 35 games left, the Yankees are also on track to break the all-time record of 116 victories by the 1906 Chicago Cubs.

The Yankees missed a chance to go a season-high 63 games over .500. The last time a Yankees team equaled or surpassed that mark was in 1927, when New York finished the year 66 games over at .110-44.

The victory, the Rangers' first against the Yankees at home this season, kept them 2½ games behind Anaheim in the West.

In an AL game reported in yesterday's edition:

Royals 11, Devil Rays 5

Sal Fasano had a career-high four hits and hit consecutive home runs with Jermaine Dye as Kansas City won on the road.

### MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

East Division

New York 94 33 340 GB

Boston 76 61 334 18½

Baltimore 69 61 331 24½

Tampa Bay 66 44 328 28½

Central Division

Cleveland 71 58 350 —

Kansas City 59 71 454 12½

Minnesota 57 72 442 14

Chicago 54 72 438 16½

West Division

Arizona 71 59 346 —

Los Angeles 68 61 327 2½

Seattle 59 69 441 11

Oakland 50 71 438 19½

### WILD CARD GLANCE

AMERICAN LEAGUE

W L Pct GB

Boston 76 61 334 18½

Baltimore 69 61 331 24½

Texas 68 61 327 28½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

W L Pct GB

New York 94 33 340 —

San Francisco 89 61 331 49

Single-season 50 Home Runs

53 - Mark McGwire, Cardinals, 1998

52 - Mickey Vernon, Yankees, 1956

52 - Willie Mays, SF Giants, 1955

52 - George Foster, Reds, 1977

52 - Mark McGwire, Oak Athletics, 1998

51 - Ralph Kiner, Pirates, 1947

51 - Johnny Mize, NY Giants, 1955

51 - Cecil Fielder, Tigers, 1990

51 - Sammy Sosa, Cubs, 1998

50 - Jimmie Fox, Red Sox, 1938

50 - Albert Belle, Indians, 1995

50 - Brady Anderson, Orioles, 1996

### BATTING - Batters

332: D.Jeter, New York, 348; T.Walker, Minnesota, 339; M.Vaughn, Boston, 332; J.Rodriguez, Texas, 328; J.Garcia, Boston, 325; Segal, Seattle, 318.

RUNS - D.Jeter, New York, 102; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 98; Durham, Chicago, 98; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 96; J.Valentin, Boston, 96; Knoblauch, New York, 93; Edmonds, Anaheim, 92.

RBI - J.Gonzalez, Texas, 127; Belle, Chicago, 111; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 107; R.Palmeiro, Baltimore, 105; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 102; M.Ramirez, Cleveland, 102; T.Martinez, New York, 102.

HITS - A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 167; D.Jeter, New York, 162; M.Vaughn, Boston, 159; G.Anderson, Anaheim, 155; Olfertman, Kansas City, 152; O'Neill, New York, 155; G.Carpenter, Boston, 152; R.Rodriguez, Texas, 152.

HOME RUNS - Griffey Jr., Seattle, 43; Belle, Chicago, 36; R.Palmeiro, Baltimore, 38; J.Gonzalez, Texas, 37; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 36; Canseco, Toronto, 35; M.Vaughn, Boston, 33.

STOLEN BASES - Henderson, Oakland, 54; Lofton, Cleveland, 39; Stewart, Toronto, 38; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 37; Olfertman, Kansas City, 35; B.Hunter, Detroit, 34; T.Gooden, Texas, 31; Noxon, Minnesota, 31.

PITCHING (15 Decisions) - D.Wells, New York, 16-2, .889, 3.26; Cone, New York, 15-4, .786, 3.58; P.Martinez, Boston, 17-4, .810, 2.73; Wakefield, Boston, New York, 15-4, .786, 3.58; P.Martinez, Boston, 17-4, .810, 2.73; Wakefield, Boston, New York, 15-4, .786, 3.58.

STRIKEOUTS - Schilling, Philadelphia, 166; G.Vaughn, San Diego, 162; C.Finley, Anaheim, 160; Cone, New York, 162; Erickson, Baltimore, 154; Colon, Cleveland, 140; Mussina, Baltimore, 140.

SAVES - Gordon, Boston, 36; Peralta, Anaheim, 35; Wetteland, Texas, 34; M.Jawa, New York, 33; M.Jackson, Cleveland, 32; Aguirre, Minnesota, 31; J.Montgomery, Kansas City, 28; R.Myers, Toronto, 28.

NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS

BATTING - Olerud, New York, 343; Bichette, Colorado, 341; Kendall, Pittsburgh, 338; L.Walker, Colorado, 337; V.Guerrero, Montreal, 331; Castillo, Colorado, 327; Chones, Atlanta, 325; Biggio, Houston, 325.

RUNS - Chones, Atlanta, 107; Biggio, Houston, 104; Sosa, Chicago, 101; McGwire, St. Louis, 101; Bagwell, Houston, 98; Giarvin, Philadelphia, 96; G.Vaughn, San Diego, 94.

RBI - Sosa, Chicago, 126; McGwire, St. Louis, 113; Castillo, Colorado, 112; A.Rodriguez, Texas, 107; Galaraga, Atlanta, 106; G.Vaughn, San Diego, 103.

HITS - Bichette, Colorado, 155; Biggio, Houston, 170; Castillo, Colorado, 168; V.Guerrero, Montreal, 167; Giarvin, Philadelphia, 166; Chones, Atlanta, 160; DeBell, Houston, 158.

HOME RUNS - McGwire, St. Louis, 53; Sosa, Chicago, 51; G.Vaughn, San Diego, 42; Galaraga, Atlanta, 40; Castillo, Colorado, 37; A.Rodriguez, Texas, 37; V.Guerrero, Montreal, 31; H.Rodriguez, Chicago, 31.

STOLEN BASES - Womack, Pittsburgh, 50; Biggio, Houston, 41; Renteria, Florida, 39; Ely, New York, 35; Floyd, Florida, 24; Olerud, San Francisco, 21.

PITCHING (15 Decisions) - D.Wells, New York, 16-2, .889, 3.26; Cone, New York, 15-4, .786, 3.58; P.Martinez, Boston, 17-4, .810, 2.73; Wakefield, Boston, New York, 15-4, .786, 3.58.

STRIKEOUTS - Schilling, Philadelphia, 166; G.Vaughn, San Diego, 162; C.Finley, Anaheim, 160; Cone, New York, 162; Erickson, Baltimore, 154; Colon, Cleveland, 140; Mussina, Baltimore, 140.

SAVES - Hoffman, San Diego, 41; Beck, Chicago, 37; Shaw, Los Angeles, 37; Nen, San Francisco, 32; J.Franco, New York, 28; Urrutia, Montreal, 28; B.Wagner, Houston, 24.







1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26